

Teachers call strikes to hit 2.5m pupils

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

Up to two-and-a-half million children in nearly 10,000 schools are the targets of a new round of half-day strikes announced yesterday by the two biggest teaching unions.

The strikes will be spread over the next three weeks in 30 of the 104 local education authorities in England and Wales. The action will be planned to cause the greatest possible disruption.

The unions, the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, which represent three-quarters of classroom teachers, pledged that their campaign would continue until the Government restored negotiating rights.

Parents' representatives greeted the news with "despair".

The Secondary Heads Association issued a warning that schools were "on the brink of an abyss" and called on Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to reopen talks with the unions.

Every teacher who takes action will have pay reimbursed by the union. The unions say it will cost an

average of £12 a head and claim that they can sustain it "for months if not years".

The 10 areas selected for strikes next week are: Sunderland, Cheshire, Calderdale, Kirklees, Hereford and Worcester, Norfolk, Surrey, Avon, Croydon and Inner London. The areas contain

today, accused striking teachers of "unforgivable behaviour".

"They are damaging education in schools, hitting children and taking it out on them. You must not forget that less than half the teachers wanted to take action, and only half the children in the country have been affected."

"I think it's quite unjustified, because teachers will be getting pay rises of 16 per cent this year and 25 per cent over the next 18 months."

Mr Baker responded angrily to claims that the disbanding of the Burnham Committee had taken away the teachers' negotiating base. "Next year the determination of pay is to be looked at by an interim advisory committee to which the unions will be able to make representations."

"It is only a temporary measure until the unions come forward with their own proposals. But they have not come forward, and I have been asking them since last November."

In Scotland, Mr John Pollock, general secretary of the biggest teaching union, the Educational Institute of Scotland, said that events south of the border vindicated his members' decision to accept a pay-and-conditions deal very similar to the one rejected by teachers in England and Wales.

Half-day strikes yesterday in Cornwall and in Hereford and Worcester led to thousands of children being sent home at lunchtime. Hundreds of schools will be closed today in Lancashire, Doncaster, Leeds, Solihull, Cambridgeshire, Kent, Hampshire, Surrey and Dorset.

His discipline, page 2

Research spending in EEC under fire

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The European Parliament's Research and Technology Committee yesterday condemned Britain, France and West Germany for refusing to increase spending on research and development in the EEC.

The all-party committee, meeting here, said that the apparent determination of the Ministers of the 12 to hold down research spending to £2.8 billion was damaging and short-sighted.

The framework research programme of 5% of GDP proposed by the Commission for the next five years is designed to enable European industries to compete effectively with Japan and America in the 1990s.

Mr Amédée Turner, Conservative MEP for Suffolk and the Euro-Tories research spokesman, gave a warning that thousands of British and other European research workers faced job losses unless more research funding was approved. British industries and universities had a great deal to offer, and British companies benefited from investment in joint European programmes because they got more back as well as putting more in.

It was paradoxical, he said, that the British Government supported EEC technology programmes such as Esprit, Brité and Race, yet was obstructing further funding.

Mr Glyn Ford, Labour MEP for Greater Manchester East and a member of the Parliament's Research Committee, attacked Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister for Information Technology, for saying that it was better to ease the

First marriage service by a woman



Miss Sylvia Mutch, a deacon, who yesterday became the first woman to conduct an Anglican wedding service in the United Kingdom, with Mr Alistair Dearnley and Miss Heather Irvine, the couple she married in York. Report page 3.

Tories aim attack at Alliance

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Conservative strategists have chosen this weekend's rally of 600 party activists in Torquay to launch an unprecedented attack on the Alliance in an attempt to head off its steady rise in the polls.

The onslaught, which will seek to exploit the tenth anniversary of the Liberal-Labour pact by painting the Alliance as closet socialists, will be led by Mr Norman Tebbit, the party chairman, supported by seven other Cabinet ministers.

Mr Margaret Thatcher, in her first big speech after the Budget, and the last before her trip to Moscow at the end of the month, will also turn her attention to the Alliance as she winds up the central council meeting on Saturday.

The switch in Tory tactics, against a background of growing election fever at Westminster and pressure from Conservative Central Office, senior ministers and backbenchers for a June election if the signs remain right, has been triggered by a rise in Alliance support since the autumn and its handsome victories in the Greenwich and Truro by-elections.

According to the MORI polls, support for the centrist coalition has risen from a low point of 17 per cent after the Liberal conference at Eastbourne to 25 per cent, narrowing the gap between the Alliance and Labour from 22 points to seven.

The Torquay gathering, under the umbrella of "Moving Forward", will seek to build on the Budget and give impetus to the momentum of gains at Bournemouth.

Dr David Owen said yesterday the Alliance "had seen nothing yet" from the Tories.

Base rate comes down to 10% and further cut likely

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The reward for Mr Lawson's budgetary caution came swiftly yesterday with a half percentage point cut in bank base rates to 10 per cent.

A further half-point reduction is thought likely in the City within the next week or two, which would be enough to bring down mortgage rates by at least 1 percentage point.

A 1 point fall would bring most home loan rates down to 11% per cent, but societies were warning that the drop in base rates so far was not enough.

Mr Tim Melville-Ross, chief general manager of the Nationwide, the third-largest society, said: "We are still waiting. But if there were a significant downward move by our competitors, particularly the banks, we would have to lower our rates as well."

A 3-percentage point cut, including the tax alterations, would mean a drop of about £8 in monthly repayments on a £30,000 repayment mortgage, from £217 to £209 a month.

Yesterday, the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, said he did not want to rush the process of bringing interest rates down. "It is right to be cautious and prudent", he said.

But his hand may be forced by the strong buoyancy in the pound. Yesterday's cut in base rates did little to stem the enthusiasm for sterling which surged over the benchmark rate of \$1.60 to close in London at a cent higher at \$1.6076.

Mr Lawson said he was "perfectly content with the present level of the exchange rate". He was less prepared to see any further rise now than he was after the agreement of

Aids fear hits life insurance

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Any single male applying for life insurance was now regarded as a potential Aids risk, MPs were told last night.

Such an application would immediately be "cause for inquiry", Mr Hugh Jarvis, chairman of the Life Reassurers Committee of the Association of British Insurers told the Social Services Select Committee.

Single males would be asked questions about their lifestyle "and if further inquiry shows a person really is living on their own or living in a monogamous relationship the likelihood is that they will get acceptance at the basic premium or a modest increase".

Mr Richard Zamboni, chairman of the Association's Life Insurance Council, said even those merely carrying the virus were now considered "uninsurable".

In separate evidence, the Association of District Councils called for compulsory powers to licence hairdressers, acupuncturists, ear-piercers and tattooists, some of whose low standards could help spread Aids.

The ADC also criticized the Government for failing to supply central guidelines to local authorities on the Aids risks. Staff at places such as swimming pools and leisure centres had no guidance on how to deal with accidents involving bleeding.

The City's reaction to the Budget yesterday was generally very favourable. "The Budget rebuffs those who suspected the Chancellor of going for a pre-election boom and post-election correction," said Mr Michael Hughes of Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

but he had been forced to raise it to £34 billion after new policy pledges.

Mr MacGregor estimates that the items now "lost" from Labour's programme amount to £8.1 billion. He has also cut £180 million of pledges by Mr Norman Buchan, former arts spokesman.

But he has added £13.8 billion for a pledge to increase pensions. He has also apparently raised the total by £120 million for an increased Christmas bonus, £180 million for a promised winter premium, and £630 million for extra spending on the health service.

INSIDE 'Abusive' doctor is struck off

Dr Jennifer Colman-Archer, who used abusive language to hospital colleagues and failed to treat patients properly, was ordered to be struck off the medical register by the General Medical Council.

TIMES BUSINESS Bank payoffs

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant banking group, has paid its former chief executive and its former head of corporate finance a total of £560,000 in compensation for their resignations in January.

TIMES SPORT Aintree mount

Richard Dunwoody will, after all, partner West Tip in next month's Grand National but not in the Cheltenham Gold Cup today.

TIMES JOBS Human assets

A company's employees are its greatest asset and must be properly looked after, says an introduction to today's eight-page General Appointments section.

TIMES FOCUS Portfolio - Gold -

● The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was shared by three readers yesterday. Details, page 3.
● Portfolio list, page 29.

INDEX	
Home News	2-7
Overseas	8-11
Business	25-30
Sport	35-38, 40
Appointments	41-48
Arts	49
Births, deaths, marriages	21
Books	23
Chess	27
City Diary	27
Crosswords	14, 40
Diary	18
Entertainment	22
Features	14, 15, 18
Information	22
Law Report	22
Leading articles	19
Letters	20
Obituary	20
Parliament	4
Science	21
Snow Reports	39
TV & Radio	40
Weather	39

'56p tax rate' under Labour

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

A Commons row broke out last night when Mr John MacGregor, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, claimed that he had costed Labour's programme of spending pledges at £34 billion, which would mean raising the standard rate of income tax to 56p in the £.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the Shadow Chancellor, hit back by accusing Mr MacGregor of rigging up the figures as he went along.

Mr Hattersley said Labour was committed to only two spending packages. The first was a £6 billion programme to cut unemployment by 1 million within two years. That would be paid for by keeping borrowing at the level that Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, had intended before he cut it by £3 billion in his latest Budget, and by reversing the 2p tax cut.

The second commitment was a £3.6 billion anti-poverty package.

Previously Mr MacGregor had costed Labour's plans at £28 billion. Yesterday he said that, following indications from Mr John Prescott, Labour's employment spokesman, that plans for a 35-hour week, a minimum wage and early retirement had been scrapped, he had cut the total, without success. I could not believe it was suicide."

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Missing scientist in defence mystery

By Tony Dawe

An international search has been launched for a missing British defence specialist engaged on work linked with the Star Wars space programme.

Detectives are investigating possible links between the disappearance of Mr Avtar Singh-Gida and the unexplained deaths of two computer specialists working on similar defence projects.

Last night MPs from the three main parties called for a Government statement on the security implications of the deaths and disappearance of the key defence workers.

All three were dealing with major underwater projects which could help locate submarines at vast depths and which also have implications

for the Star Wars programme. Mr Singh-Gida was last seen with a colleague near a Derbyshire reservoir where they were conducting an experiment on underwater acoustics. The two men separated for lunch and Mr Singh-Gida disappeared. Police frogmen searched the reservoir but found nothing.

The Derbyshire police have now asked Interpol to check Mr Singh-Gida's family addresses in India, Pakistan and Canada. His wife, Vaji, said at their Loughborough, Leicestershire, home: "There is no logical explanation. He was about to collect his PhD from Loughborough University after four years' work."

The police are particularly concerned about his disappearance because of his friendship with Mr Vimal Dajibhai, a defence specialist, whose death seven months ago remains a mystery. Mr Dajibhai, who worked for Marconi, spent three years perfecting computer programmes on the Tigris wire-guided air-to-sea missile.

He was found dead last August beneath the Clifton suspension bridge, Bristol, one of Britain's most popular suicide spots. But Mr Dajibhai, of Kenton, north London, had no connection with Bristol and had just been appointed to a well-paid job with a City of London computer company.

Helicopter crash kills two soldiers

Bonn - Two British soldiers were killed and another three injured, one of them seriously, when a Lynx helicopter crashed in West Germany yesterday (John England writes).

An Army spokesman said the aircraft of 3 Regiment, Army Air Corps, stationed at Soest, was on a routine flight when it came down on a garage in the village. The garage was destroyed, but no one on the ground was hurt.

The names of the dead and injured would not be released until their next-of-kin had been informed, he said.

The cause of the crash was not known, but a board of inquiry would be convened.

NEWS SUMMARY

Jail term over library books

A mother, aged 22, was jailed for seven days yesterday for failing to pay court fines imposed over the non-return of nine library books.

Probation officers made emergency arrangements to collect Mrs Sharon Gordon's son, aged six, from school after Wolverhampton magistrates jailed her. Last night the child was staying with grandparents.

Mrs Gordon, of Farnside Estate, Wolverhampton, had been fined £111.30 by magistrates at a previous hearing for failure to return the books. She was given a 14-day suspended sentence last October but magistrates heard yesterday that she had paid off only £24.

Mrs Gordon told the court that she lived on social security benefit and that her income was only £22 a week and her outgoings £26.

Brighton trial

Russell Bishop, aged 19, of Stephens Road, Brighton, was committed for trial yesterday, accused of the murder of two schoolgirls.

Magistrates at Hove, Sussex, refused an application for bail after an 11-day hearing.

The bodies of Karen Hadaway and Nicola Fellows, both aged nine, were found in a park at Brighton last October. They had both been strangled.

Mr Bishop, who has pleaded not guilty, left the dock in tears, and shouted: "I am innocent. I hope you realize that."

Eight are released

Detectives investigating the existence of an alleged "private army" in the Midlands last night released eight people who were arrested in raids which led to the seizure of firearms, weapons manuals and military-style uniforms.

The seven men and a woman were not charged and were given police bail at Tamworth, Staffordshire, pending forensic examination of several weapons. Police said a number of people could face firearms and public order charges.

Clean-up Prince

The Prince of Wales launched the European Year of the Environment (EYE) yesterday.

At Cargo Fleet, Cleveland, the site of former ironworks and part of the region's 4,000 derelict acres, the Prince said EYE was a chance to boost a Europe-wide renovation.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said he was granting £1 million to demolish a disused power station in Cleveland. Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State, announced a £750,000 grant to support EYE.



Royal respects

A wreath from the Prince of Wales and a spray of flowers from the Queen were placed on the coffin of the former royal nanny Helen Lightbody who was buried yesterday.

The handwritten card on the tribute from the Prince, who was in her care until the age of six and always maintained contact, read: "For Nana, in loving memory of early childhood - Charles".

The former nanny was buried in her home town of Jedburgh in the Scottish borders. She died at a convent nursing home in Hawick at the weekend, aged 79.

Space projects money 'being wasted'

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

Much of the Government's spending on space projects is going to waste because the funds are inadequate, according to the Natural Environment Research Council.

It also accepted that the money available may be wasted because civil projects were carrying out the same research as that done by the Ministry of Defence without the research council's knowledge.

In evidence to the House of Lords science and technology select committee, the council argued for a £30 million budget for earth observation

projects which would help Britain "to earn a living".

Both the council and the all-party committee are hindered by the Government's delay in approving the British National Space Centre's first space plan.

The BNSC wants the space research budget raised from £100 million to nearly £300 million to enable Britain to take a leading role in European space developments, and to help to finance British initiatives.

But ministers from the Department of Trade and Industry are apparently opposed by colleagues at the Treasury who are against find-

ing any new money for research and development, which is not considered a "vote-winner".

The Cabinet's economic committee is expected to make a decision on the space plan at the same time as deciding whether to give £750 million in aid to British Aerospace for its Airbus programme.

The Natural Environment Research Council told the peers' committee that the success of BNSC "is dependent on achieving increased funds for the national effort" and having a workable organizational framework.

The present budget "is not

enough to ensure that the investments in space are adequately exploited for the nation's benefit".

It said: "It can be argued that the imbalances present in the current programmes inhibit investments in crucial areas such as applications development, the utilization of satellite technology and the development of the operational market".

The council complained that there was very little useful in the flow of information on MoD projects into the civil programme. Dr John Bowman, the council's secretary, said: "But we are not party to MoD research projects so we

do not know what we are missing".

● A lucrative breakthrough in computer technology developed at a government research centre may be lost to the Japanese because world patents have not been taken out.

Several Japanese firms are developing their own versions of the Supertwist flat computer screen and are planning to launch them on the commercial market this year.

Legal experts acting for the Ministry of Defence are trying to discover whether it is possible to take out retrospective world patents.

Pay rise puts freeze on research at universities

By Michael McCarthy and Robert Matthews

A freeze for at least six months on all new scientific research in British universities was declared last night by the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC), which has to finance a 24 per cent pay award with no new money from the Government.

Hundreds of new research projects ranging from helicopter safety to pollution control will now have no chance of funding before September at the earliest.

The council said it had no alternative if it was to find the unplanned-for £8 million needed to finance its share of last month's pay award for university lecturers.

Some observers considered the dramatic nature of the freeze was designed to help the Secretary of State for Education and Science, Mr Kenneth Baker, to seek further government money.

The SERC chairman and chief executive, Professor Bill Mitchell, is meeting Mr Baker tomorrow morning to discuss the position.

Although the five research councils took no direct part in the university pay negotiations, the thousands of university researchers they employ will benefit from the award.

As they have received no new funds from the Government the councils must finance the award from their present budgets, which have already been allocated.

The SERC's £8 million is the largest shortfall, but the Medical Research Council must find an extra £4.2 mil-

lion, the Agricultural and Food Research Council £4 million, the Natural Environment Research Council £500,000 and the Social Research Council £300,000.

All face the prospect of cutting back on research projects to find the money, a situation described as outrageous earlier this week by Sir Walter Bodmer, Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Ironically, the 24 per cent pay award was intended to reverse the shrinking of Britain's science base.

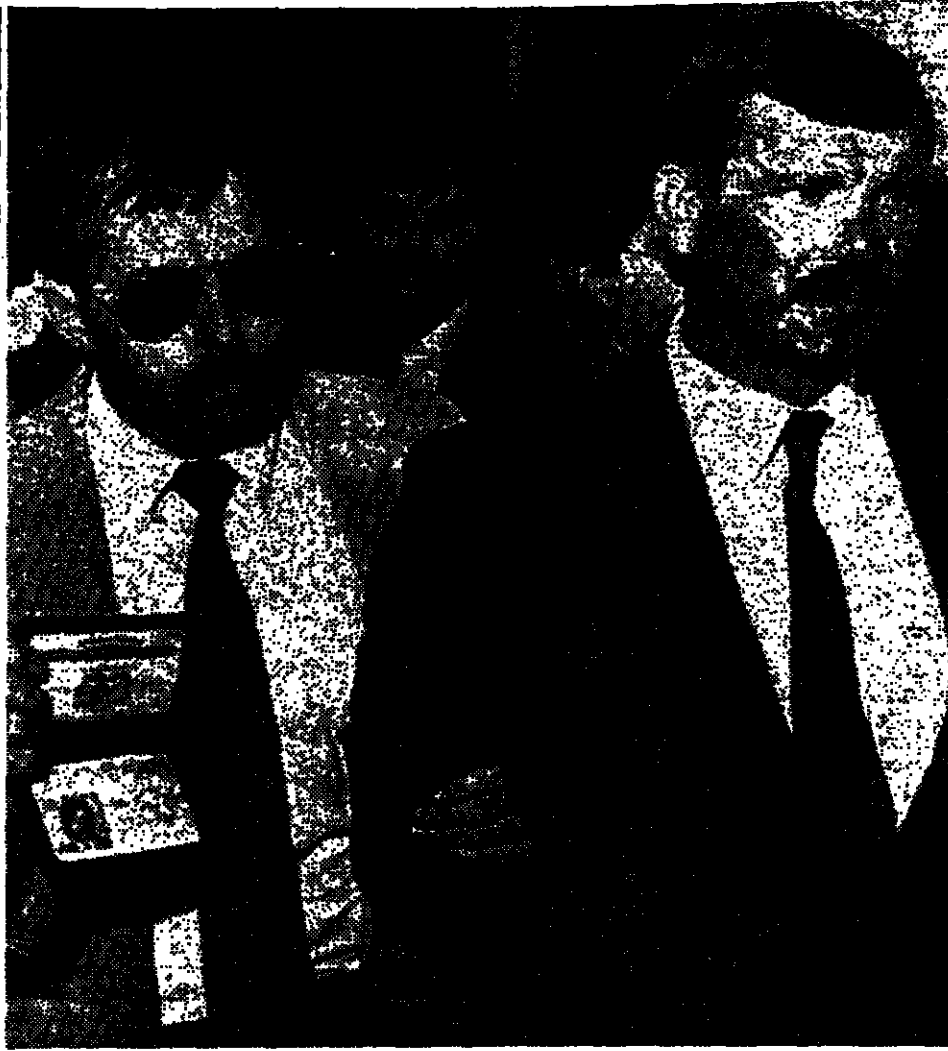
Yesterday's decision by the SERC was to cancel the current round of grant awards, for which applications were due by April 1. Normally the council would receive between 1,000 and 2,000 applications, of which perhaps 700 might receive funding.

The Astronomer Royal, Professor Sir Francis Graham Smith, said last night that he received the news of the freeze with absolute horror.

Sir Francis said that the Government should come up with the £8 million shortfall, because basic research was being affected.

Professor Denis Noble, of the Save British Science Campaign, said he was very perturbed by the decision, but could not see what else the SERC could do.

The Department of Education and Science said last night: "The Government is aware of the problem, and is considering it".



Mr Fleming being escorted aboard a London-bound plane by guards in Miami yesterday.

Water jets for riots ruled out

By Nicholas Wood

The use of water cannons against rioters was ruled out by the Government yesterday.

Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, said tests showed that they lacked manoeuvrability, quickly ran out of water and became vulnerable to attack.

The decision came after a lengthy evaluation by the Metropolitan Police, Home Office scientists and representatives of provincial police forces in the wake of the Toxteth and Brixton riots in 1981 and the Tottenham disturbances of 1985.

They examined the use of water cannons on the Continent and conducted trials using two British-built prototypes at a training centre in Greenwich, south London.

West German experience, in which water cannons have been successfully used to disperse rioters in open spaces was dismissed as of little relevance. In Britain they would probably be confined to the urban settings which have been the setting for recent disorders.

Water cannons were used unsuccessfully against demonstrators in Northern Ireland during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The cannons tested in London were difficult to manoeuvre in narrow British streets and their jets were too powerful. They could kill people caught close to the full blast, which was capable of overturning cars.

Fleming is given 24-hour reprieve

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

John Fleming, wanted for questioning over the £26 million Brink's Mat bullion robbery in 1983, won an eleventh-hour reprieve yesterday in his long-running fight to avoid returning to Britain.

Mr Fleming, handcuffed, stepped off an aircraft bound for London just 20 minutes before it was due to take off in Miami, Florida.

His lawyers won a 24-hour stay of deportation from a federal judge because Venezuela had granted him a visa. One theory is that the DPP does not have a prima facie case against Mr Fleming.

Since August, Mr Fleming has been expelled or turned back from Spain, Costa Rica, Panama and the Dominican Republic, shadowed all the while by Scotland Yard detectives.

Mr Fleming's lawyers have argued that the United States and British governments have illegally conspired to pressure other countries to deny him entry to force his return.

He says: "I've done nothing wrong but they want me and they will hound me until they have me trapped with nowhere else to go."

"I do not think that it is fair justice and when I get home I feel the odds will be stacked against me."

The latest twist of the cops and robbers saga came after United States immigration officials in January declared him an "excludable alien" and ordered his deportation.

Equality deadline for city's schools

By Sarah Thompson
Education Reporter

A city that provides only one girl's place at a grammar school to every two boys' places has been accused of sex discrimination.

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has thrown the Labour-controlled Birmingham City Council into confusion by setting a deadline at the end of this month for an acceptable solution to be found.

Mr Les Byron, the chairman of the education committee, favours the culling of provision for boys to provide more places for girls.

As a result the move is likely to end in the forced closure of one of the city's four boys' grammar schools, three of which are part of the King Edward VI Foundation.

Such a move will probably encounter opposition from parents who have fought off frequent attempts by the council to end selection.

Mr Byron said yesterday: "My view is that democracy tends to get in the way of bringing the best quality into the curriculum."

Mr Martin Rogers, headmaster of the Foundation schools and Chief Master of the independent King Edward VI School for Boys, has called for the city to open a third girls' grammar school.

But this solution, said Mr Byron, would be impossible since the city as a whole already offers more places to girls than boys.

This was because of the high demand for single sex girls' schools from the ethnic minorities. The council, he said, was under pressure from auditors to cut empty places.

The EOC's demands were reported to councillors in a private session this week and legal advisers are now hastily working on a solution.

Ilea set to discipline teachers

By John Clare
Education Correspondent

Teachers striking against the Labour-controlled Inner London Education Authority's policy of compulsory redeployment were warned yesterday they would be disciplined for misconduct.

The authority has decided to take an uncharacteristically tough line with militants who are trying to block its decision to force nearly 1,400 surplus teachers to move to schools which have unfilled vacancies.

Twice this week protesting members of the left-wing Inner London Teachers' Association have not only gone on strike but taken some of their pupils to demonstrate with them outside County Hall, the authority's headquarters.

Their action was condemned yesterday by Mr Bill Stubbs, the authority's chief executive. He said: "Teachers who are absent from their school without permission are in breach of their contract."

Ilea has been trying without success for two years to persuade teachers who have been made surplus by falling rolls to move voluntarily to where they are needed.

Ban lifted

Bradford Council is to lift its ban on advertising in *The Times Educational Supplement* and other newspapers belonging to News International after the end of the company's dispute with the print unions.

FOSSIL-FIST FLANAGAN vs GERRY-ATTRIC MURPHY

A 104 min. One Round Contest FOR THE HIP SUPPORT BELT

March 19th

TONIGHT AT 9.00 TWO COACH LOADS OF O.A.P.'s BATTLE IT OUT IN A NIGHTCLUB.

Round one, Alan Bleasdale reunites two 'boys from the blackstuff', Michael Angelis and Bernard (Yosser) Hill as the new manager and bouncer of a nightclub on New Year's Eve.

Round two, cold turkey, warm beer, a dead rabbit and two rival groups of geriatrics in fancy dress who come out fighting. Judge's decision, an undisputed knockout.

Space link to missing researcher

Continued from page 1

of a rope around a tree and the other around his neck, then getting into his automatic car and driving off.

A verdict of suicide was recorded, but the coroner spoke of a possible "James Bond" link between the two deaths. However, Avon and Somerset police could find no connection and enquiries have ceased.

But Mr Sharif's friends are convinced the suicide was "too perfect". Their concern is shared by Mr Eric Deakin, Labour MP for Walthamstow, who was due to meet his constituent the day he died.

Mr Deakin said: "He was coming to see me about getting his fiancée in from Pakistan. It was a routine matter. I understand he had just been promoted at work and, with his fiancée soon to arrive, I can see no reason why he should commit suicide."

The MP has written to Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, requesting a transcript of the final stages of the inquest and a copy of the police report.

August 1986 VIMAL DAJIBHAI Found beneath Clifton suspension bridge Worked for Marconi at Cranley Green Lived in Kenton

January 1987 AYTAZ SINGH-GIDA Disappeared near Ticknall Research student at Loughborough University

October 1986 ASHRAF SHARIF Found on a common near Bristol Worked for Marconi at Cranley Green Lived in Walthamstow

THE STAR WARS CONNECTIONS

Other MPs called last night for a Government statement on the security aspects of the affair. Mr John Cartwright, the Alliance defence spokesman, said: "These deaths and the disappearance are stretching coincidence too far, especially when you consider the sensitive nature of the work these men were engaged on."

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Labour MP for Wokingham, said he would pursue the matter urgently. MPs are con-

cerned because Britain is well ahead of the Soviet Union in research into the fields the men were working on.

Mr Dajibhai worked on the Stingray, the only missile capable of locating the new "Mike"-type Russian nuclear attack submarine, which can launch weapons from a depth of 3,000m. Details of the Soviet submarine were published this week in *June's Defence Weekly*.

Mr Dajibhai's work, and that of Mr Singh-Gida on

underwater acoustics and Mr Sharif on vibrations, has implications for the Star Wars programme in which Marconi is participating.

Mr Tony Collins, a reporter with *Computer News*, who first wrote the story on the deaths, said yesterday that the computer simulation system, code-named Cosmos, which Marconi is working on, is three years ahead of similar developments in the United States and 10 years ahead of the Soviet Union.

Wife forced to sign '£2 pocket money' marriage contract

A teacher made his wife sign a marriage contract after blaming her meddling parents for breaking up their happy home.

The eight-clause document limited the times she could see her relatives and the money she could spend.

Mrs Janet Staerck ran away to her parents after her husband, Stephen, hit her, and when she returned, he compelled her to write out two copies of the document, a divorce court judge said yesterday.

"If she protested he hit her and kicked her", Mrs Justice Booth said in the Family Division of the High Court when she granted Mrs Staerck, a former teacher aged 31, a decree nisi because of her husband's unreasonable behaviour.

The first condition of the contract was that the wife would not mention the names of her parents or relatives to the husband.

Second, she would visit her parents twice a month with the costs to come out of the family budget. She would not stay overnight but would return in time to cook the husband's evening meal.

Third, the parents could visit their daughter at her house once a month in the absence of the husband when it was convenient to him.

Fourth, the wife would be allowed just £2 a week personal spending from the family budget.

Fifth, no presents were to be bought for her family from the family budget.

Sixth, if her parents were sick or anything was wrong, visiting would not be allowed to exceed five days a year.

Seventh, if a relative died, she would be allowed two days to visit with the costs coming out of the family budget.

Eighth, if they moved to another part of the country she would be allowed two weeks a year to visit her parents.

One copy she signed and sent to her parents. They both signed a second copy and the husband kept it, but the wife had since destroyed it, the judge said.

Mr Staerck, aged 37, of Meadow Way, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, denied the validity of the document. But the judge said she believed the wife. The husband denied being unreasonable and said the marriage had gone wrong because of interference from the wife's parents.

The couple, who have a son, Robert, aged six, married in December 1979.

She first left him in the summer of 1983 after he hit her and tore her blouse. It was on her return the contract was signed, the judge said.

They finally parted in August 1984 after another incident of violence. She fled again to her parents and still lived with them at Watford Road, Croxley Green, near Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire. She was adamant that the marriage had irretrievably broken down.

But Mr Staerck, who teaches social studies, denied it had broken down although they had not lived together for nearly three years.

Finding that it would be unreasonable to expect the wife to continue living with him the judge said: "It takes two to make a marriage".

After the hearing Mrs Staerck said: "It has been a dreadful experience and now I just want to get on with my life".

Her husband said: "I will appeal. I still care for my wife, but I don't know if it is love in the romantic sense."

"Marriage vows are lifelong and I must still explore the chance of resuming our relationship. There was not any contract, we just had a discussion. I'm devastated. This contract just did not exist."

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A family walking hand-in-hand: Mrs Janet Staerck with her parents after she was granted a decree nisi yesterday.

Victims of ferry disaster buried

Two victims of the Zebrugga ferry disaster, a soldier based in West Germany and a retired Metropolitan Police officer, were buried yesterday.

Lance-Corporal Gary Thomas, aged 23, was buried with full military honours at a requiem Mass at St Aidan's Church, in Huyton, Merseyside.

Corporal Thomas, who was with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in West Germany, was engaged to Miss Susan Lambert, whom he met after they became pen pals, and they were to have been married last Saturday.

More than a dozen Army colleagues and an Army chaplain from West Germany were among hundreds of mourners, who included two soldiers who had been on board the Herald of Free Enterprise.

Father Paul Thompson told the congregation that the three friends had struggled to save each other and fellow passengers.

Corporal Thomas was buried at Yew Tree cemetery, Liverpool. A bugle was sounded and an Army firing party fired three volleys.

More than 500 mourners packed the Guards Chapel in Whitehall for the funeral of Mr Peter Martin, a retired Metropolitan policeman, and former Grenadier Guardsman.

They included policemen and staff from Lancing College, Sussex, where Mr Martin was a security marshal. Mr Martin, aged 53, who was 6ft 9ins, retired from the force two years ago.

He was on the ferry with his wife Kay, who suffered leg injuries, but attended the service. The couple had no children.

A guard of honour formed by Metropolitan Police officers met the cortege of family mourners.

The operation to right the capsized ferry was abandoned indefinitely yesterday because of bad weather.

A six-foot swell and near gale-force winds threatened to persist through to the weekend and put the March 27-30 target date for righting the vessel in jeopardy.

Meanwhile, Mr Peter Sturt, the Dover coroner, and two British pathologists arrived in Zebrugga yesterday to prepare for the inquest on the ferry victims.

Letters, page 19

Sell-offs increase share ownership

By Lawrence Lever

The number of people owning shares has increased by 2.5 times in seven years, according to a survey commissioned by the Stock Exchange and the Treasury.

The survey, published yesterday, shows that about 7.5 million people, or 18 per cent of the adult population, own shares in publicly quoted companies. This compares with only 7 per cent of the adult population in 1979.

The privatization programme and the growth of employee share schemes were given as the main reasons for the increase in share ownership.

The privatization drive accounts for about 3.5 million shareholders, who do not have shares in any other company. A further 500,000 hold shares only because of employee share schemes.

The survey also indicates a lukewarm response so far for the Personal Equity Plan (PEP), announced in last year's Budget, which allows people to invest up to £2,400 a year in shares, with any income and capital gains being free of tax.

Only 1 per cent of those questioned had taken out a PEP.

The Chancellor announced in Tuesday's Budget that 2,000 people a day were taking out PEPs. Treasury officials said that these figures came from a different survey, which was possibly a more reliable guide.

The survey also showed that 8 per cent of the adult population owned only privatization shares, excluding applications for shares in British Airways, or shares in the Trustee Savings Bank.

Shareholders, including those who own shares in private companies and those quoted only on the over-the-counter market, total about 8.5 million, or 19.5 per cent of the population.

The survey, based on 7,000 interviews carried out in January and February this year, was commissioned partly because of conflicting evidence produced by earlier surveys.

Last April, a Treasury survey showed that 14 per cent of the adult population were shareholders, compared with a Stock Exchange survey in September 1985 which put the figure at 16 per cent.

Portfolio Gold Prize will pay for meal treat

Three readers shared yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000.

Mr Albert Wallis, aged 77, a retired staff foreman, was delighted. "You don't know what this means to me. I swapped over to *The Times* last year and never missed a game."

Mr Wallis, of Goodall Road, Leytonstone, east London, said he hoped to spend the money on treating his family to a restaurant meal. He would put the rest towards a trip to New Zealand.

Mr Martin Eves, aged 34, senior technician in the department of pathology at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, south-west London, said he would spend his prize on a family holiday.

Mr Duncan Beaton, aged 64, a retired Civil Servant, of King's Road, Longdiddry, East Lothian, said he now had the chance to spend some money on his hobbies.

Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold
The Times
PO Box 40
Blackburn
BB1 6AJ



Mr Albert Wallis: he has never missed a game

Jury in hotel

The Keith Blakelock trial jury spent its second night in London hotel after failing to return verdicts yesterday. Three men deny murdering the PC on the Broadwater Farm estate in Tottenham, north London, in October 1985.

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Sterilization case may go to Lords

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The ruling that a teenage girl with a mental age of five should be sterilized for her own good might now go to the House of Lords.

The Official Solicitor has four weeks in which to lodge the appeal he is considering. But time is pressing because once the case, known as *Jeannette*, comes to 18 on May 20, nobody has the power to authorize her sterilization.

An operation cannot be carried out after that date even if the court ruling in favour of the sterilization.

Mr Cecil Emmerson, solicitor for Jeannette's mother, said yesterday that no action would be taken to arrange the operation while there was the possibility of an appeal. "No-one is going to proceed with undue haste," he said.

It was over a year ago that the girl, who is believed to be in a mixed home, started to show signs of sexual awareness. In her interests, her mother decided to seek the court's approval for sterilization.

In order for the girl to be separately represented, she was made a ward of court while the matter was decided.

The charity Mencap said yesterday it would welcome a further appeal. In the past two years it has had some 20 approaches from parents or hospitals over sterilizations.

It was particularly concerned about a report that a retarded girl aged 11 had been sterilized. "How is it that a girl like this is even allowed to be in a situation where she might become pregnant?", a spokesman asked.

Mencap's Midlands office said yesterday it knew of two mentally handicapped teenagers about to be sterilized at the request of their parents.

The operations are said to be imminent, but Mencap said the gynaecologists who had agreed to carry them out would withdraw because of the public concern over the Court of Appeal ruling in the case of Jeannette.

Mr Martin Gallagher, Mencap's West Midlands office, said that in both cases the decision to sterilize the girls was taken by their parents in consultation with medical advisers, including GPs and psychiatrists.

Both girls are under 18 and regarded as severely handicapped. They are living at home and neither local authorities nor courts were involved.

Another mentally handicapped girl, now aged 19, from Birmingham, was sterilized more than a year ago, because of her parents' fears about her relationship with a mentally handicapped boy, according to the charity.

Mr Collins, a father of two from Newry, Co Down, left the dock when the prosecution offered no further evidence on the charges against him. He had denied 50 charges including murdering a fellow customer officer, a former Ulster Defence Regiment soldier, a former RUC reservist, a serving RUC reservist and a civilian, between 1981 and 1983.

Two other men are still on trial, one charged with counselling and procuring the murder of a customs officer and another with conspiracy to cause an explosion. The hearing continues today.

Mr Justice Higgins said he remained unsatisfied that the accused had not been assaulted in such a way which amounted to inhuman and degrading treatment.

Mr Collins, aged 33, left Belfast Crown Court a free man after the judge's ruling that the prosecution had failed to prove he had not been assaulted when interviewed by Royal Ulster Constabulary officers.

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Hurd will widen law on retrials

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Home Secretary wants to give the Court of Appeal wider powers to order a retrial in cases other than where there is new evidence.

At present, cases where the jury has misdirected the jury - or where evidence has been wrongly excluded or admitted - cannot be sent for retrial.

It can order a retrial only if it has allowed an appeal against conviction because of evidence received and that it appears the interests of justice require a retrial.

Last month the Court of Appeal made clear that it wanted a new general power. Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with two other judges, said that if it could, it would have ordered a retrial of the case then before it. Instead, "with some reluctance", it just had to quash the conviction.

Mr Hurd, in answer to a written parliamentary question, said the Government intends to act on this and has issued a consultation paper so a clause can be attached to the Criminal Justice Bill now going through the Commons.

In the paper the Government says it accepts the recommendations of the Law Commission last year that in the light of changes in the law in Scotland and Ireland, "the case for extending the court's present power had been considerably strengthened".

The powers of the equivalent courts in Scotland and Northern Ireland are far wider. In Northern Ireland the court may order a retrial after a successful appeal against either conviction or sentence if it believes there has been a miscarriage of justice. In both cases the court must be satisfied the interests of justice require a retrial.

March 18 1987

PARLIAMENT

Fishery zone 'works well'

Now that the arrangements that had established a fisheries conservation zone around the Falkland Islands had been shown to be fully justified, ministers should recall the "whingeing, cringing predictions of international conflict and disaster" made by the Opposition at the time of their introduction, Sir John Bigger (Epping Forest, C) said during Commons questions.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, agreed that there had been downland predictions made by Labour and that the arrangements were now working smoothly.

But Mr George Foulkes, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said they should not jump to conclusions about the success of the conservation zone when it had been operating for only a few months. He described it as a "surrendering and tense arrangement, which could flare up at any time."

Sir Geoffrey Howe said that he had no doubt that Mr Foulkes must live in the expectation of that, if only to fulfil his doom-laden forecasts, but experience showed that Mr Foulkes had made some extremely foolish and ill-founded predictions in the past.

Soviet post criticized

The issue of the free movement of mail between the United Kingdom and East Europe was unsatisfactory and should be used by the British delegation as a lever in the Vienna conference that is reviewing the European Security and Co-operation Conference, Mr David Smeeth (Bury South, C) said during Commons questions. He said that the Soviet record over free postal communications was the yardstick by which their commitment to human rights should be judged.

Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, agreed that it was necessary to watch progress on this issue on the Soviet side. It was inherent in the implementation of the Helsinki Final Act.

£5m more for tour boards

The Government is proposing to make an additional £5 million available to the English Tourist Board and the British Tourist Authority in 1987-88 so that they can expand their marketing and development activities and continue to give priority to encouraging tourism in areas of unexploited potential and high unemployment, Mr David Trippier, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, said.

Islands poll plan studied

The Foreign Office is studying a report and recommendations of the Turks and Caicos Islands Constitutional Commission relating to elections for a new Administration, and the report and Government response to it will be published towards the end of April, Mr Timothy Eggar, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, told the Commons.

Royal Assent

The Social Fund (Maternity and Funeral Expenses) Act 1987 received Royal Assent.

Budget 'immorality' attacked

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on economic affairs, opening the resumed debate on the Budget, said that one thing about which he and Mr Lawson completely agreed was that it provided an opportunity for the two main parties to demonstrate how wide was the gulf now dividing them.

The Alliance, on the other hand, took refuge in the abandoned trenches of no man's land.

At the next general election, voters must have a clear alternative. Labour would not oppose tax cuts now, then support them once they were in pay packets.

The Budget had been wrong socially and economically. In its neglect of the unemployed, it had been wrong morally (Labour cheers).

He wanted to congratulate Mr Roy Jenkins on his victory on Saturday (when his election as Chancellor of Oxford University was confirmed).

He must have been irresistible to what Matthew Arnold called the "horns of lost causes (Labour laughter)."

Apparently, there had been apprehension at Oxford that if Mr Jenkins had failed to get the job, he would have gone off and founded a university of his own (renewed Labour laughter).

Mr Lawson had had £6 billion to spend. Yet, in their time, dead sheep had done better than he had.

Last night, there had been some hope among Conservative MPs that the page of the Budget speech that the Chancellor had lost contained the tax cuts for which they longed but were denied.

It had been a Budget to buy votes. But Mr Lawson had carefully targeted those he wanted to buy. Potential Tory converts were written off.

"By neglecting those who need most, the Chancellor has widened the desperate and destructive divisions within our society" (Labour cheers).

If the first priority really was reducing unemployment, spreading money about in tax cuts was the least effective way of doing it.

The desperate destruction within our society had been intensified and deepened by the Budget.

No Budget had ever relied so heavily on the dictum that nobody with a conscience voted Conservative (Labour cheers).

It had not been a prudent Budget. Mr Lawson wanted to spend £20 billion on holding unemployment at more than 3.5 million.

Nor was it prudent to sacrifice the £30 billion the country would earn if those people were back at work. It was not prudent either to allow the quality of housing, hospitals, schools and roads to decay to the point of disintegration.

It was not prudent to squander the country's revenues. Manufacturing output and investment had collapsed. It was not prudent to escalate the deficit on the balance of manufacturing trade.

BUDGET

It was not prudent not to secure the homes of the old and weak against the disastrous rise in burglary and robbery (Labour cheers).

More important, the Budget was generally irrelevant to economic needs.

The income tax cuts could not be sustained. They would worsen the balance of payments deficit — something that the Chancellor found convenient to ignore at the moment.

The Chancellor should have used the money available to build a united country, instead he had used it to finance a failed publicity stunt.

The Government was in the middle of a closing down sale. Everything must go but buy while stocks last! Amazing reductions!

But customers who fell for such blandishments found that the shoddy goods they had bought, the hucksters who had sold them would have cut and run. It would be the same with this Government. That was its clear intention and that was the message of the Budget.

The tax cuts could not be sustained. The Budget was no more than a trailer for the election. Value-added tax would be increased to fill the gap after the election if the Conservatives won. The country would be left with tax cuts which helped the rich most and they would be replaced by tax increases which hit the poor hardest.

An increase in VAT was the Prime Minister's clear intention. On television in 1984 she had been absolutely explicit about aiming for a balance between direct and indirect taxation.

It was the pattern of Tory behaviour to cut direct taxation before elections and to increase indirect taxation after elections. One recent example was before the 1979 election. Mrs Thatcher promised there would be no increase in VAT and then, immediately after the election was over, she increased it from 8 per cent to 15 per cent.

These days, when the Prime Minister was pressed on television, radio and at press conferences, she refused to say categorically that she would not increase VAT after the next election. The Chancellor had been similarly evasive with journalists yesterday evening.

But Mr Lawson wanted to give such a categorical assurance now could not continue or could not be allowed to continue without massive damage to the real economy.

If in 1979 the BBC had prophesied that, despite oil revenues, this Government would still have a balance of payments deficit that was growing year by year, the chairman of the Conservative Party would have got on to his bike and cycled round to Broadcasting House to sort out the Bolsheviks propagating such ideas.

It was impossible to imagine a more irresponsible way of reacting to the balance of payments



Mr Roy Hattersley: "Budget shows how wide a gulf divides us".

in December, he had not been expecting that £6 billion fiscal adjustment in March. Therefore, Mr Lawson could not legitimately claim credit for it.

Buoyant revenues were a short-lived and dangerous phenomenon. They were the product of circumstances which either could not continue or could not be allowed to continue without massive damage to the real economy.

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It was impossible to imagine a more irresponsible way of reacting to the balance of payments

deficit than escalating a consumer and credit boom by cutting 2p off the basic rate of income tax.

The Chancellor should answer the question that he had always refused to answer: what were his plans for getting the balance of payments back into surplus?

There were some parts of the Budget of which Labour approved: tax differentials for leading petrol, better provisions for charities, the increased allowances for blind people and those over 80 years old, and new tax allowances to assist training.

In a passage in the Budget speech that was meant to be a joke, the Chancellor had said if the Opposition would support the Bill to bring a formal end to exchange control, he was pleased to say that they would.

They would want a debate in order to draw attention to the

money that had flooded out of Britain since the end of control and would want to describe the Labour Party's new way of bringing back that money to British investment in British industry and jobs.

"We have no intention to breathe life into an already dead Act when we have a superb new system."

Labour applauded the Chancellor's conversion on the subject of the measurement of broad money. It had once been the criteria on which all policy was decided. The only problem with the broad-money target was that the Chancellor could never quite hit it.

They equally welcomed the VAT changes for small businesses, but they had proposed those changes last year, when the Government voted them down. They welcomed a sinner come late to repentance.

Howe assures Commons about control of European Community overspending

Complaints about European Community overspending — and questions over where the extra money "to fill the huge hole" would come from — brought an assurance from Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, that there would be no additional funding outside the EEC's own-resources system.

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory (Wells, C) had reminded MPs that the Community had spent about £3 billion more than its permitted revenue this year.

The European Commission had reacted by switching to a more generous revenue system so that the European budget could continue its upward path.

Would Sir Geoffrey bring to the European budget the same confidence and rectitude for which he was famous as Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Sir Geoffrey said that there were continuing problems of securing effective control of the European budget.

The British Government's decision rested absolutely on the Fontainebleau Agreement, which provided that the maximum rate may be increased to 1.6 per cent (of value-added tax contribution) on January 1 1988 by unanimous agreement of the Council and of member states' national parliaments.

He emphasized that the provision was "may" not "shall". Mr Stephen Dorrell (Loughborough, C) said it was a

distortion to say that the Commission had main responsibility for European budgetary discipline. It rested with the Council of Ministers, who were no longer willing to impose a proper set of budgetary properties.

There was unlikely to be a proper solution until that fundamental problem was tackled. Sir Geoffrey asserted that the matter was not that easy to resolve.

The basic reason for the extra difficulty over control of agricultural spending was the need to protect rural communities.

It was the same for the United States, Japan and most other industrial countries.

Mr Eric Deakin (Walthamstow, Lab) wondered whether the revenue side of the budget agreed by the Council would be adequate to produce the revenue needed in 1987.

If it was not, did Sir Geoffrey and the Council favour a supplementary budget, or new intergovernmental agreement?

Sir Geoffrey repeated that the Government would not provide additional funding outside the own-resources system.

Mr George Robertson, an Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, said that it was all very well for Sir Geoffrey to say that the Government was sticking by the Fontainebleau Agreement.

The Community already had accumulated liabilities of £12 billion.

If the Government was going to reject the Delors package, putting a price tag of 2.1 per cent on VAT, what then?

Even that proposal provided for an increase in the common agricultural policy of 2.5 per cent a year.

Why had there been such a silence from the Government on this important crisis affecting the Community?

Sir Geoffrey said Mr Robertson should know better. Budgetary discipline arguments had been put in place under the Fontainebleau Agreement.

Labour nuclear 'switch' praised

GENEVA

Reports of a shift in the Labour Party's policy on nuclear weapons were welcomed during Commons questions by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

He said that he was driven to speculate about the implications of the press reports of a shift by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Neil Kinnock) suggesting support for the zero-zero position.

"If that is happening, however belatedly, one must welcome their attempts to evade the consequences of their previous disastrous policy."

"The recognition, if it be the case, of the wisdom of keeping cruise missiles in this country, to achieve success in the negotiations, reveals the foolishness of the whole unilateralist approach."

He was replying to Mr William Cash (Stafford, C), who asked if he had noted the desperate Houdini tactics being adopted by Mr Kinnock in a vain attempt to satisfy the negotiators at Geneva and the voters of this country that his party was no longer industrialist.

That proved that the firm defence policy followed by this Government was going to produce effective verifiable progress towards genuine disarmament.

Earlier Sir Geoffrey said that the seventh round of the Geneva talks had been extended to allow further discussion of the US draft intermediate nuclear forces (INF) treaty tabled on March 4.

Mr John Cartwright (Woolwich, SDP) asked if the Government had been consulted about suggestions that the American Pershing 2 missiles might not be removed, but might be converted into a short-range system.

Since anything that could be converted could be reconverted, what were the implications of this for verification?

Sir Geoffrey said that, because of the scope for variation in the capacity of the SS21 and SS22 on the Soviet side, it was important to achieve proper constraints on the shorter-range INF.

Sir Antony Back (Colchester North, C) said that progress was rather disappointingly slow in the arms negotiations.

Sir Geoffrey said he could understand the impatience for headway. In matters of such complexity, it was far more important to be right than speedy.

Mrs Ann Clywd (Cynon Valley, Lab) asked if he could explain why the Government had changed its mind on the zero-zero option by wanting an agreement on short-range nuclear weapons at the same time as reaching agreement on INF instead of in subsequent negotiations as was the Government's position between 1981 and 1986.

Sir Geoffrey said that there had been no change in the Government's policy.

It had always been regarded as important to ensure proper constraints on short-range nuclear weapons as part of the initial agreement and beyond that to ensure commitment to a further round of negotiations for the rest.

Mr George Robertson, an Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, asked for confirmation that the draft treaty on INF at Geneva did not endorse the Prime Minister's line that catching up with the Soviet short-range superiority was a pre-condition for agreement.

Sir Geoffrey: He is doing his best with a profoundly bad brief.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

So much excitement and mystique surround the Budget these days that there is a tendency to judge its political effect by its dramatic quality. By that yardstick Mr Lawson's fourth Budget might be accounted a political failure.

When the most favoured word of praise is "prudent" it is fair to assume that not many pulses have been set racing by the Chancellor's effort. It might even be classed as an anti-climax when set against some of the expectations.

I conclude from this not that Mr Lawson has missed a political opportunity, but that this standard of measurement is wrong. Dramatic budgets rarely look so clever politically in the autumn as they did in the spring.

There is a simple explanation. Chancellors generally do not have so much room for manoeuvre as the rest of us imagine.

They can usually obtain a dramatic effect only by radical reform of the tax structure, which is liable to upset as many people as it pleases, or by taking a bit of a chance. By the autumn the country has forgotten the initial thrill, but it certainly notices if the gamble has not paid off.

Even this year Mr Lawson's scope for drama was limited. A pre-election Budget is not an occasion for major tax reform. Too many people would be disconcerted, even if they would benefit in the long run. The obvious way for him to have played for public approval would have been to cut income tax by even more.

But there would have been a double danger in that. It would have been discounted by many people as blatant electioneering. So the immediate political response might not have been all that favourable.

If he had been distributing all that money, the criticism would have been heard much more loudly that he was doing little enough directly to help the unemployed and the poor.

The other and greater threat would have been that a tax bonanza now might have brought a revival of inflation and renewed pressure on sterling later in the year. Today's generosity might have been followed by a return to austerity tomorrow.

Nothing could have been worse as a platform for the election. A dramatic Budget would have restricted Mrs Thatcher's choice. It would have pushed her towards a June election. All the good news would have come at once. By the autumn we would either have forgotten it or be paying for it.

As it is, the good news will come out drip by drip. The tax cuts were announced by Mr Lawson in his speech. These were followed by a reduction in interest rates yesterday. A further cut in interest rates, and therefore in mortgage rates, will come almost inevitably.

None of this may make a startling impact. But it should contribute to an increasing sense of economic wellbeing among most people in this country. It will immediately be pointed out that that does not include the unemployed. Mr Lawson's very prudence may have strengthened the impression that he is insensitive towards them.

Yet the progressive reduction of interest rates should help to keep economic growth at a satisfactory rate throughout this year, and a steadily expanding economy offers the best hope of maintaining a secure rise in employment.

Chancellors have little freedom

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Yet the progressive reduction of interest rates should help to keep economic growth at a satisfactory rate throughout this year, and a steadily expanding economy offers the best hope of maintaining a secure rise in employment.

Lawson required not to gamble

The Government's political position did not require the Chancellor to gamble, indeed it positively required him to avoid giving any such impression. When the election comes, the Conservatives will want to present themselves as the one party that can provide stable and successful government.

This Budget fits such a political strategy. It minimizes the risk of inflation and a sterling crisis. It offers the hope of further improvement as the year goes on. It therefore leaves Mrs Thatcher as free a hand as possible in choosing the election date.

Only in refusing to put up the duty on drink and tobacco in line with inflation has Mr Lawson been obviously electioneering. Apart from that, by being apparently unpolitical he has produced an unusually astute political Budget.

NEW INTEREST RATES

Base Rate
Reduced by 0.5% to 10.0% per annum with effect from 19 March, 1987.

Deposit Accounts
Interest on Deposit Accounts will reduce by 0.5% to 4.0% net per annum with effect from 19 March, 1987.
For those customers who receive interest gross the rate will be reduced to 5.35% per annum.

Save and Borrow Accounts
Interest on credit balances will be reduced to the above Deposit Rate with effect from 16 April, 1987.

Midland Bank
Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX.

Repair needs 'are declining' 1,000 more BREL job losses ordered

A further 1,000 job losses were now unavoidable at British Rail Engineering Limited at Crewe, York and Derby, Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, confirmed in response to a private notice question in the Commons.

A further 350 job losses at Derby were being brought forward by a year and BREL were seeking voluntary redundancies and early retirements wherever possible.

In his statement, Mr Mitchell said: At a meeting yesterday afternoon, BREL informed the national officers of the trades unions concerned that it would unfortunately be necessary to make a further reduction in the staff of the New Build and Repair Group.

These changes are largely prompted by further reductions in British Rail's repair requirements for coaches and locomotives and do not reflect any new policy initiatives.

The New Build and Repair Group has around 13,000 staff. The BREL announcement covers an overall reduction of 1,400 staff by March 1988.

About 1,000 of the job losses are new — 600 at Crewe, 350 at York and around 100 at Derby. A further reduction of some 350 jobs at Derby had already been announced last year, but is being brought forward from 1988-89 to 1987-88.

The Government fully recognizes the importance of the railways. British Rail is investing heavily in modernization — a total of £3 billion since we took office, with a further £2 billion planned for the next five years. But, as the House will recognize, modern rolling stock needs much less maintenance and repair.

There are three factors which



Mr David Mitchell: Importance of railways recognized.

flow from BR's major investment in new rolling stock.

First, from the moment that BR decides to order new rolling stock, heavy maintenance on the old stock ceases. Second, fewer modern vehicles are needed to provide the same level of service. Third, new rolling stock itself requires less maintenance and the design is such that much of it can be done by component exchange in the depots rather than in the main BREL works.

Decisions on workload and employment are matters for BR and BREL. Naturally both I and the Government greatly regret the job losses which are now unavoidable — I say that because we recognize the human problems and personal difficulties caused by a situation such as this.

I understand that BREL will be seeking voluntary redundancies and early retirements wherever possible.

Mr Peter Snape, an Opposition spokesman on transport, said that this latest batch of excuses would not wash. If the Government were to implement a proper programme of rolling stock electrification and ensure that British companies were top of the list for new orders, BREL would have a lot more business and greatly improved prospects.

Mr Mitchell said that Mr Snape might say it would not wash, but he could not deny that new rolling stock did not require the degree of maintenance which old rolling stock required. Nor could he escape the fact that when ministers acceded to Opposition requests for more investment in BR, that meant there would not be so great a need for heavy maintenance.

Mr Constable Gregory (York, C) asked for a commitment that Mr Mitchell would put to BREL that any redundancies should be on a voluntary basis, in line with those of the nationalized industries.

In discussions with the management of BREL, would he ask that more resources be put into gaining a greater proportion of the export market on which there had been a lacklustre performance?

In view of the success of deregulation, would it not be possible, as happened 15 to 20 years ago, for the depots to undertake a greater amount of bus and coach heavy maintenance?

Mr Mitchell said that he would discuss redundancy terms with the chairman of British Rail. British Rail would be making every effort to find alternative employment for displaced employees and hoped it would be possible to cover the changes by

voluntary redundancies and early retirements.

British Rail had put a big effort into seeking export orders, and it was a fiercely competitive market.

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe and Nantwich, Lab) said that the announcement was a gross betrayal of men who had worked hard in the industry for their lives and who had a high level of expertise. The minister was talking arrant rubbish.

Mr Mitchell said that the redundancies did not arise as a matter of Government policy, they arose as a result of the level of demand for the services provided by BREL.

If she was anxious to see employment opportunities come to Crewe she would do well to support the Channel tunnel scheme.

Mr Gregory, Knight (Derby North, C) asked that an effort should be made to find alternative work with British Rail for those made redundant.

Mr Kenneth Eastham (Manchester, Blackley, Lab) said that Sir Robert Reid, chairman of British Rail, had been boasting about buying 1,500 new locomotives. Why not give these skilled men work on new build rather than on maintenance?

Mr Mitchell said that he did not give orders to British Rail. The chairman said what he wished to invest in and that would be carefully considered.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Agriculture questions and questions to the Prime Minister. Continuation of debate on the Budget.
Lords (3): Consumer Protection Bill, third reading. Patents (Amendment) Bill, committee, second day.

Building of hospitals in Scotland 'is a shambles'

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The building of hospitals in Scotland over the last two decades was described as a complete shambles yesterday, following publication of a damning all-party report.

The Scottish Affairs Committee report tells of 20-year delays, alarming cost overruns, and defective construction, and attacks the "poor management" of the Scottish health service.

Mr David Lambie, Labour MP for Cunningham South and the committee chairman, said he had no reason to believe the situation was better south of the border.

He also said he was impressed by examples of privately-built hospitals seen by the committee.

The report calls for an overhaul of the process of hospital procurement, and at one point suggests that litigation against consultants or contractors should be dropped where the costs are likely to exceed the benefits.

Legal action over the construction of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Yorkhill, Glasgow, for example, began in 1984, is expected to continue until the mid-1990s, and could cost the taxpayer £8 million.

The hospital was one of three singled out by the committee for its "litany" of constructional defects. These included "failure of mosaic cladding, major malfunctions of the windows, problems with brickwork, drainage faults, contamination of the water supplies, breaching of the fire integrity of the building, structural faults and roof leaks".

Hospitals such as Inverclyde, Royal Crosshouse, and Royal Alexandra, Paisley, all in Strathclyde, appeared on the new building programme of 1962 but were not occupied for 18, 20 and 24 years respectively. Others on that

list have yet to be occupied. The estimated £4.25 million cost of the Inverclyde had more than doubled. The £12.6 million estimate in 1978 for the still unfinished Borders District General Hospital increased last year to £19.1 million.

The committee had great difficulty examining those responsible. The people sought for questioning had either died or resigned, while everyone else denied any blame, Mr Lambie said yesterday.

The report notes that the Commons Public Accounts Committee had for over 24 years heard repeated evidence of defects in British hospital building. "It is a matter for deep regret that the vigilance and efforts of the PAC were not rewarded by a more effective response from those with executive responsibility", says the report.

The committee notes that most of the 1962 building programme was now complete, that future development would be on a smaller scale, and that the Government had issued new "sensible" guidelines on procurement.

However, it makes many detailed recommendations for improvement. Mr Lambie called for "firm, accountable management" of new projects by small teams with full authority.

He also said that health boards "spend far too much time consulting everyone when they plan new hospitals, though most of the people whom they are consulting may never have worked in a modern hospital, may be unable to read a drawing, and are likely to have moved or retired by the time the new hospital opens".

First Report of the Scottish Affairs Committee: Hospital Provision (Stationery Office, £5).



Steve McCombe setting out on the 12-mile round trip across mountain tracks to fetch mail for the villagers of Rhenigdale on the island of Harris. A new road will make it possible to get there by car in 1989 (Photograph: Tom Kidd).

End of the road for postman's boots

On the far side of a remote Scottish mountain, four miles up and over a treacherous sheep track, a handful of crofters are celebrating a milestone in the history of their centuries-old community.

The road is coming to Rhenigdale — one of the most isolated villages in Western Europe.

It was 30 years ago that the idea of a road was first suggested by people on the Hebridean island of Harris. Now, at a cost of £100,000 for each of the 11 inhabitants, the blasting and laying of the

"black stuff" is to begin.

Once the dust has settled, however, it is hoped that more people will come to restore the ruins of the abandoned crofts.

Mr Steve McCombe, a recent settler on the island, will be able to hang up the climbing boots he has had to wear in his job as the village's postman.

He said: "You have to be pretty fit to tackle the job — in places the track is like something out of the Andes. At times can be dangerous."

"In a high wind you can easily lose your footing and

then it's a straight drop into the sea."

The former Inverness-shire County Council made an "urgent plea" for the road in 1957. The Western Isles Council inherited the problem with the reorganization of the local authorities.

Mr Kenny MacKay, the town clerk, has regularly trudged over the mountain to plead the case in Stornoway, the island's capital.

His determination has paid off, and the council has agreed to spend £1 million to lay a single-track road — with pass-

ing places — into the hamlet on the shores of the Minch.

The first vehicles should be able to make the journey within two years.

"It's the greatest news we've ever had. There was a real fear that any further delay could have meant the people packing up and abandoning their family homes to the elements", Mr MacKay said.

"Some of the older people haven't been out of the village for years. Those connected with the village, who live on the mainland, will now think of returning."

Doctor is cleared of negligence over baby

A doctor accused of failing to recognize that a baby aged three weeks needed emergency treatment was cleared of negligence at the High Court yesterday.

The baby, Marion Barker, now aged 11, has been left with a mental age of two-and-a-half after meningitis struck him in December 1975.

Dr Patrick Joseph Nugent, of St Leonards Road, West Ealing, west London, refused to comment after the eight-day hearing. He had denied negligence.

Mr Justice Rongier, dismissing the claim for damages by the mother, Mrs Erhonda Barker, aged 30, of Hanbury Road, Acton, west London, said: "It is impossible not to feel the greatest sympathy for Marion, who is left with life but without living in any real sense."

Mrs Barker claimed that Dr Nugent should have realized that the child was seriously ill when he saw him the evening before he was taken into hospital.

But, the judge said, she agreed that Dr Nugent appeared to give Marion a thorough examination.

He said that Dr Nugent, who qualified top out of his class of 600 at University College, Dublin, "is not, and never has been, a doctor who would brush a patient aside, especially one of such a helpless age as Marion without giving him his best attention."

"He was, in my judgement, a careful and caring doctor", the judge said.

BP seeks to expand oilfield in Dorset

BP petroleum developments asked a High Court judge yesterday to approve a big expansion of its onshore oil production operations at the Wytch Farm oilfield on the Isle of Purbeck, Dorset.

Production is running at about 5,500 barrels a day from the Bridport subterranean oil reservoir. BP wants to expand production to the Sherwood reservoir to give an expected peak of 60,000 barrels a day.

To do so, it requires additional ancillary rights, mainly to bore more wells and construct works on the surface, at the 4,700-acre Rempstone estate, under which a large part of the oilfield lies.

Mr Michael Essayan, QC, for BP, told Mr Justice Gibson in London that the company had been unable to obtain the rights by negotiation with the estate trustees.

As a result, it was asking the court to make an order granting the rights under The Mines (Working Facilities and Support) Act 1966.

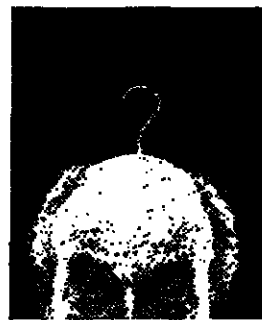
BP is opposed by the trustees, and by Mr Walter Pitman, a tenant. Mr Essayan said Mr Pitman was concerned about compensation.

The hearing, which is expected to last at least three weeks, continues today.

Rare lambs

Nine Leicester longwails, sheep on the critical list of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, have given birth to their first lambs at Shugborough Park Farm, the Staffordshire agricultural museum.

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7. Have a drink.
8. Persuade a total stranger to tell you their life story.
9. Have another drink.
10. Persuade a total stranger to listen to your life story.
11. Write a letter to an old friend you've lost touch with.
12. Sleep.
13. Gaze out of the window and note how England is changing.
14. Have a meal.
15. Walk up and down a bit.
16. Re-plan your life.
17. Write down your three trickiest business problems. Then work out how to solve them.
18. Read a magazine you'd never normally read.
19. Play chess.
20. Flirt outrageously with a fellow passenger of the opposite sex.
21. Invent something that will make you a fortune.
22. Do whatever you please.

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Abusive doctor is struck off

A doctor who used abusive language to hospital colleagues and failed to treat patients properly, was ordered to be struck off the medical register by the General Medical Council yesterday.

Dr Jennifer Colman-Archer was said to be guilty of serious professional misconduct after three charges against her were found proved. A fourth charge that she failed to attend a patient as a matter of urgency was not proved.

Dr Colman-Archer, aged 43, of East Dereham, Norfolk, who has 28 days to appeal, was accused of using foul language against colleagues and of having a bullying bedside manner. She told the committee yesterday that during her time at the James Paget Hospital, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, she had been popular with pa-

tients and was never warned about her conduct.

She denied allegations that she called a senior doctor a "useless black queer" and a "poofster", and accused him of incompetence. She told the disciplinary hearing: "He is white".

She said that all her patients "befriended her", and on several occasions sent her flowers and chocolates.

Dr Colman-Archer said: "I was never rude to patients and have never had them complain about me. I don't swear on wards and I have never sworn at a nurse, not even in the heat of the moment, in front of patients".

The GMC committee had been told that Dr Colman-Archer had failed to examine a patient with a serious chest complaint. It was also claimed that she refused to attend a patient suffering a heart attack, and when she did, it was in "extremely bad grace".

The doctor said staff who made the allegations were lying. She said: "I had the makings of a good doctor and I like people very much".

She also denied using foul language to a ward sister.

She said: "There was an argument. The sister told me I was only a junior house officer and if I wanted to be treated like a doctor I had to act like one. I was very angry and left the office but never swore at her".

The charges arose after complaints from staff at James Paget and the King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.



Dr Colman-Archer: "I was not rude".

Race tipster loses claim over sex bias

A racing tipster who lost her job with *The Star* newspaper was not a victim of sexual discrimination, an industrial tribunal in Manchester has ruled.

Mrs Mary Pye, of Tennyson Road, Stoke, Coventry, told the tribunal that she had many successes at *The Star*, including a run of 11 winners.

Mrs Pye, who worked for the paper for seven years, said her successes were often played down, compared with the coverage given to male tipsters.

When Mrs Pye lost her job, she took her former employers to a tribunal.

Mr Roy Trueman, a company manager, said no one had the right to publicity in the paper and Mrs Pye was given what space was available. He said Mrs Pye was regarded as a freelance who had lost her job as part of large-scale cost cuts.

Three in court over flotation of TSB shares

Three men appeared in court yesterday accused of fiddling applications in the Trustee Savings Bank shares flotation last year.

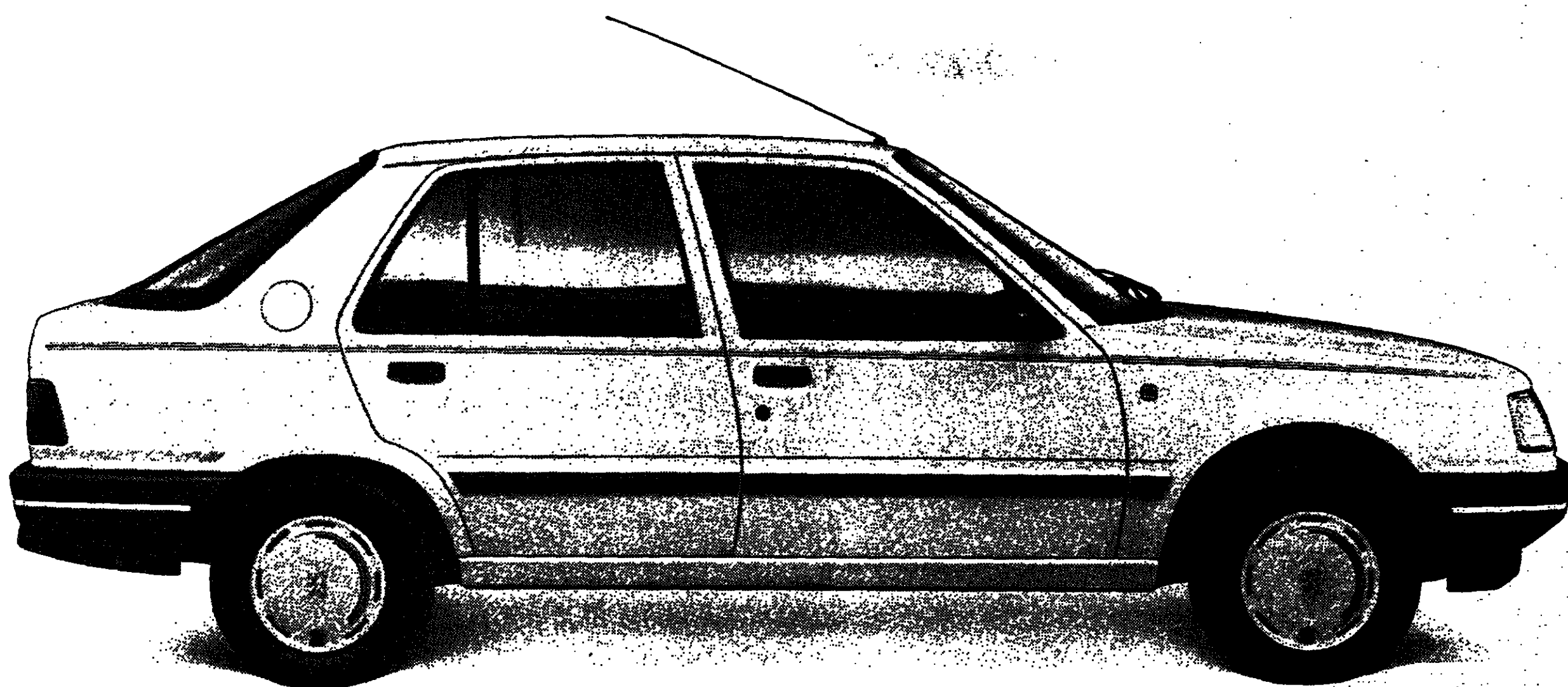
They are the first applicants to be charged in a series of police investigations into the £1.500 million stock market flotation.

Rupert Nicholas Stephenson, aged 22, a consultant, of Abercrombie Street, Battersea, south-west London, Keith Samuel Springer, aged 25, an insurance broker, of Trouville Road, Clapham, south-west London, and James Alexander Thompson-Schwab, aged 24, of Green Acres, Longtown, near Carlisle, Cumbria, were remanded on bail until April 30 by Bow Street magistrates.

They are accused of conspiring together and with others between August 4 and September 25 to obtain shares in TSB from Lazard Brothers by deception.

First human
tests of Aic
vaccine show
early success

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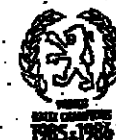
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First human tests of Aids vaccine show early success

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A French medical researcher has injected himself with an experimental vaccine containing components of the Aids virus and suffered no side effects, in the first human tests to be conducted.

The researcher, Dr Daniel Zagury, has remained healthy with no apparent damage to his immune system after nine weeks, he and colleagues at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, report in today's issue of *Nature*, the scientific journal.

The potential vaccine is still at an early stage of development and the researchers are cautious about its potential. Many problems may have to be overcome before large scale clinical trials of the vaccine could be considered, they said.

However, it has shown encouraging results, which have been supported by further tests involving African volunteers. Preliminary confirmation of its ability to trigger an immune response against the Aids virus has come from immunization of a small group of healthy volunteers in Zaire, according to the report.

Dr Zagury's blood developed antibodies against a protein of the virus after the injection, and cells in his immune system were activated to recognize virus-infected cells.

At least half of the drug addicts who are at risk of spreading Aids can be persuaded to change their behaviour, researchers said yesterday.

The belief that addicts who inject themselves are inherently self-destructive misjudges the extent to which most are concerned about Aids and are prepared to do something about it, researchers at the Drug Indicators Project in London said.

This is good news for health authorities concerned that drug users will form the bridge across which Aids can spread to the general heterosexual population, Mr Richard Harcourt and fellow workers said in the latest issue of *Druglink*, the journal of the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence.

Lead-free petrol at 1/2p below four-star

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent

Unleaded petrol was selling for 1/2p less than normal four-star petrol yesterday, despite the belief that the 5p cut in duty on unleaded fuel in the Budget would bring price parity at the pumps.

Unleaded petrol at BP stations is now 174.5p a gallon, 5p cheaper than the pre-Budget price, while Texaco is selling it for 175p a gallon, 1/2p less than the average four-star price.

The reduced duty will allow the petrol companies to recover the higher production cost of unleaded fuel.

A survey carried out just before the Budget showed that two thirds of the public claimed they would be "very likely" to buy unleaded petrol at the same price as four-star.

A warning about its use came yesterday from the Royal Automobile Club, which said: "Those car owners whose vehicles cannot use unleaded fuel must be warned that misguided enthusiasm to support clean air objectives can have serious and extremely damaging effects on their cars."

The 211 petrol stations currently selling unleaded fuel have details of which cars can safely use the new petrol.



Lance-Sergeant Bill Porter, of the Irish Guards, shows Lorraine Bungard, a junior member of the St John Ambulance Brigade, how he plans to make a fast getaway in this year's London Marathon. Lorraine, from Worthing, West Sussex, is nine years old and a member of the Badgers, a section of the brigade for children aged six to 10. She does not expect to be among the 100 St John first-aiders who will be on duty at the marathon on May 10 when 100 sponsored volunteers, mainly from the Army, will be running to raise money for the brigade, which has launched a £10 million appeal to mark its centenary (Photograph: Peter Trievner)

Dispute on quotas threatens flights to the Far East

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The Government was accused yesterday of having a double standard in its aviation policy by an airline which claims that Britain is pressing for free competition within Europe yet stifling it in the Far East.

Philippine Airlines followed up its attack by saying that unless there is a change of heart by the end of this month, all air services between London and Manila will be suspended.

The dispute centres on an agreement under which the airline flies three times a week between the Philippine capital and Gatwick, and pays British Airways - which operates only two flights a week - "compensation" for losses it claims it incurs because of the extra flight.

The two operators have negotiated for three years to keep the services going and British Airways says it is now prepared to accept payment of more than £1 million a year, partly in cash and partly in passengers fed on to their routes by the Philippine state carrier.

But the Department of Transport has said that any new agreement entered into after the end of March must be subject to a 30 day exemption clause, giving the British the right to terminate it for any reason.

"The UK is supposed to be in the forefront of liberalization, urging Europe to agree to let any airline fly where it likes, when it likes", Mr Josemaria Estrada, vice-president of Philippine Airlines, said in London yesterday. "But they then try to restrict us in this unfair and unreasonable way."

All air services will cease from the end of March unless a new agreement is reached within days. Cathay Pacific flights between Hong Kong and Manila are also threatened because of the complex nature of the inter-governmental air deal.

"Our talks with British Airways have been tough, but they have been fair", Mr Estrada said. "We have been paying them the equivalent of £750,000 a year for the last two years because they say we are taking some of their traffic away, and now we are prepared to increase that by about 60 per cent."

The dispute is further complicated by Philippine Airlines' impending re-equipment of its fleet of short range aircraft.

British-built planes are hot favourites to win the £300 million contract, but the Philippine government is unlikely to look kindly on such a deal if the countries are in dispute over air services.

Job threat in scenic line fight

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

One of the men who led the struggle to save the historic Settle-Carlisle railway line may pay with his job.

Mr James Towler, has been told that his position as chairman of the Transport Users' Consultative Committee for north-east England will not be extended when it expires at the end of the month.

One source said: "James Towler prepared a splendid report arguing the case for keeping open the line which was adopted by the North-east and the North-west TUCCs and sent to John Moore, the Secretary of State for Transport."

This caused British Rail a great deal of embarrassment and has almost certainly stood in the way of his reappointment.

A decision on the line has been postponed pending further study.

As chairman of the consultative committee for the North-east Mr Towler is also a member of the Central Transport Consultative Committee. Yesterday Major General Lennox Napier, chairman of the CTC, said that he was disappointed because he had recommended that Mr Towler's term of office should be extended. The CTC had now recommended that he should be appointed an independent member of their committee.

The north-east TUCC has a routine meeting today in York, which is to be attended by Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State at the Department of Transport.

The committee is expected to express its dismay at the decision concerning Mr Towler, which was taken by Lord Lucas of Chilworth, who is minister at the Department of Trade and Industry with responsibility for nationalized industry watchdog committees.

The Department of Trade and Industry said it was its policy to bring in new blood when possible. Mr Towler had been a very good chairman, but he had first joined a consultative committee in 1973 and had had three terms as chairman.

Grieving man 'went to agency'

The fiancé of a teacher who plunged to her death over a 40ft waterfall, rejoined the dating agency through which they met, two days after her funeral, a fatal accident inquiry was told yesterday.

Miss Cheryl Richards, director of the Perfect Partners Dating Agency, Cardiff, told the inquiry at Inverness that she had advised Mr John Duggan not to rejoin so soon, as he would still be grieving.

She said that Mr Duggan had continued to ask for details of prospective partners after he had met and moved in with Mrs Lyn Davies, aged 38, a divorcee, of Trinity View, Caerleon, Gwent.

Mrs Davies, died last August when the couple were sailing a rubber dinghy on the river Patack at Lagan, Laverne-shire.

Mr Russell Franklin, of the Abbey Life insurance company, said Mr Duggan described the accident to him a month later. He had said that after plunging over the waterfall he had resigned himself to drowning, but he was able to grab a ledge.

Mr Richard Davies, an executor of Mrs Davies's will, said he had written to the procurator fiscal in Inverness after questions were raised surrounding her death.

The hearing continues.

Three to face New Forest murders trial

Three men were committed for trial at Lymington Magistrates' Court yesterday charged with the murder of five people at Fordingbridge, Hampshire, last year.

Mr Joseph Cleaver and his invalid wife Hilda, both aged 82, their son Thomas, aged 47, his wife Wendy, aged 46, and Mrs Cleaver's nurse, Mrs Margaret Murphy, aged 70, were found dead after a fire at their home.

A former handyman, George Stephenson, aged 35, of Elgar Road, Coventry, and George Daly, aged 25, and John Daly, aged 21, both brothers of Deedmore Road, Coventry, were committed to Winchester Crown Court.

Q Who is the best dressed man in Paris?

A The man who discovered that Austin Reed is just the ticket.



INQUIRY INTO THE CARE AND AFTER-CARE OF MISS SHARON CAMPBELL

NOTICE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

The Secretary of State for Social Services has established an inquiry under Section 84 of the National Health Service Act, 1977 and Section 250 of the Local Government Act, 1972 into the arrangements for the care and after-care of Miss Sharon Campbell. He has appointed Mr J A C Spokes QC to be Chairman of the Committee of Inquiry. The other members are Dr C M B Pare MD FRCP, FRCPsych and Mr G A Royle B Com LLB DMA AAPSW ACIS.

The terms of reference are:

- "To inquire into the management of arrangements for the care and after-care of Miss Sharon Campbell;
- "to consider the adequacy of these arrangements; and
- "to report to the Secretary of State and to make recommendations, on the basis of their findings, on any measures or practices which might provide improvements in identifying the needs of mentally disordered people and in the quality of care for those living in the community and the support for staff working with them."

The Chairman proposes to hold a public meeting at the Hoare Memorial Hall, Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster SW1 on 27 March 1987 at 10.30 am when he will outline the procedures he intends to adopt at the inquiry and hear applications for legal representation.

Any person or body wishing to be represented or to give evidence orally or in writing to the inquiry is invited to write to the Secretary, Mr J N Deane at Room C 607, Department of Health and Social Security, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6BY.

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*Flights between 1 October 1987 and 31 March 1988, excluding 12-24 December inclusive.

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WORLD SUMMARY

Church threat to defy Athens Bill

Athens — The leadership of the Church of Greece, the highest Orthodox ecclesiastical authority in the country, gave a warning to the Socialist Government yesterday that it was determined to defy the law if a Bill nationalizing church property was passed by Parliament (Mario Modiano writes).

"The Church is determined to defend its right to self-rule, independence and liberty," a spokesman said. "We want the Government to withdraw the draft Bill completely. Otherwise we shall refuse to implement it."

An emergency session of Church leaders, attended by 73 of the 78 bishops, was called to consider the crisis in relations which developed when the Government broke off negotiations and tabled a draft law which would confiscate most of 370,000 acres of monastic land and entrust management of the Church's urban estates to lay-dominated councils.

Drug menace growing

Washington — Drug smuggling into the United States is at an all-time high in spite of years of efforts by successive administrations to stem the flow and a doubling of anti-smuggling spending over the past five years, according to a Congressional study (Christopher Thomas writes).

The report says that illegal imports of cocaine have doubled since 1981, supplying a growing number of users at prices that have fallen consistently. It estimates that retail sales of marijuana, cocaine and heroin totalled about \$50 billion in 1985, giving smugglers a profit of \$7 billion.

Heroin concerns: Officials in Bangladesh are concerned about the use of a dozen islands off the port city of Chittagong as transit centres for smuggling heroin to the West (Ahmed Fazl writes). Anti-drug investigators also believe that they are on the verge of smashing a drugs ring which has been using trawlers to transport heroin.

Socialist Summit door ajar

Madrid — Reacting to a wave of unrest sweeping the country, the Spanish Socialist Party has launched a campaign to defend the Government's policies and attempt to bridge the widening gap between the party and the General Workers' Union (Harry Debelius writes).

News of record participation in strike by doctors at state-run hospitals, as well as strikes and protest actions by railway employees, university staff and students, construction workers and miners, squeezed reports of the Socialist anti-unrest campaign plans off the front pages of most papers.

Moscow — Mr Michael Armacost, the US Under-Secretary of State, yesterday ended two days of talks in Moscow on the possibility of another superpower summit meeting (A Correspondent writes).

He said that there were still several important details to be resolved before an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe could be signed between the Soviet Union and the US, and told journalists that he thought there was a desire on both sides to work through the details. He hoped that this desire would open the door to a superpower summit meeting in Washington.

Free two years early

Sergei Khodorovich, right, the freed Soviet dissident, arrived back in Moscow yesterday after being freed two years early from prison camp at Norilsk in Siberia (A Correspondent writes from Moscow). His case was among those brought up by the US delegation at the European security conference in Vienna, and it is not thought that he is among the 150 dissidents released by Khrushchev decree early this year.



Paper speaks up

Santiago — La Epoca, Chile's first daily newspaper run by critics of General Pinochet's military regime, was published yesterday (Lake Sagaris writes).

The first daily newspaper allowed to appear since the 1973 military coup, it presents a challenge to El Mercurio, Chile's most serious newspaper, which has supported the military government consistently.

The first edition featured photographs of leaders of a new campaign for free, democratic elections.

The lying civil servant

Rome — To nobody's surprise, a civil servant has won this year's "Best Lie in Italy" award after a hotly-fought contest in the home town of the creator of Pinocchio, the puppet whose nose grew with each new lie (Roger Boyes writes).

Some 30 candidates have paraded their deceptions in the Tuscany town of Piastre since the contest began in 1972. One candidate told of experiencing a winter frost so severe that his candle-light turned to ice, another claimed that his hens had laid fried eggs during the last summer heat wave. But the winner wore a tale of hearing a strange noise at night and discovering his riding breeches eating the stuffing of a chair. Lying, it is sometimes said, has surpassed politics by being raised to the status of a national sport in Italy.

سكزا من لامل

Saudi freed in Lebanon

Syria is key to release of captives

From Robert Fisk
West Beirut

Unshaven and weeping into his hands, swaying with tiredness, his tie dangling around his open-neck shirt, Mr Bakr Damjanhour, emerged from the darkness of his 56 days' captivity yesterday quite unable to believe that he was no longer a hostage.

"I was treated as a prisoner," he said, blinking into the photographers' flashbulbs. "I saw nothing — no human, no bird, not even an animal."

It was a sad, moving testament to his lonely confinement, itself far shorter than that of most of the other 25 foreign captives in Lebanon. Mr Damjanhour, an employee at the Saudi Embassy's cultural section, was kidnapped from his home here by two gunmen on January 12; his release was credited to the intervention of the Syrians and to Mr Nabih Berri, leader of the Shia Muslim Amal militia.

Indeed, both Mr Berri and Brigadier General Ghazi Kenaan, head of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, sat beside Mr Damjanhour as he stared, stunned and at times almost incoherent, at the journalists around him. His release was clearly intended to reflect nothing but prestige upon President Assad of Syria. It was equally meant to convey the message that the Syrians now hold the key to the foreign hostage crisis in Lebanon.

Mr Rafiq Hariri, the Lebanese-born Saudi businessman who is King Fahd's adviser on Lebanon, was also on hand to praise President Assad. Mr Damjanhour confined his thanks to God, but it was impossible to avoid the impression that some very important contacts between the Syrians and the Saudis — and Syria's Amal allies — lay behind the hostage's release. Mr Berri, who still feels he was not given sufficient credit for having arranged the release of the TWA hostages in 1985, basked in the praise of General Kenaan.

"We take this opportunity," Mr Berri said, "to ask every embassy, every journalist, every Christian who left, to come back to west Beirut." General Kenaan was even more to the point. "I hope for a happy ending for all the hostages," he announced with a grin.



Mr Damjanhour, right, after his release by kidnappers in Beirut yesterday, with a Saudi businessman, Mr Rafiq Hariri.

But Mr Berri was in no mood to expatiate on those other captives. Of Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's missing envoy, he said that "I think some declaration (publicity) worked against his release." Of Mr John McCarthy, the missing British television journalist, "I am working on that. Until now I do not have a solution," Of Mr Terry Anderson, the

him, Mr Berri was equally circumspect. "I think there is a chance (that he will be released), but it is quite complicated. It is not easy." His case was "a question between states". Amal, Mr Berri added, was nevertheless "seeking the release of all hostages".

Mr Damjanhour was produced at Mr Berri's fourth-floor office in Babour Street, but the Amal leader chose to express ignorance about his kidnappers and their motives. Mr Damjanhour, however, was slightly less discreet. His kidnappers, he said, had initially questioned him about the disappearance of Mr Nasser es-Said, a Saudi whose "Union of the People of the Arabian Peninsula" opposed the Saudi monarchy.

Mr es-Said vanished in Beirut in 1981 while under the protection of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and reports later suggested that another Palestinian organization had smuggled him out of the country to secret imprisonment in Saudi Arabia.

Three Britons, eight Americans, six Frenchmen, two West Germans, an Irishman and another Saudi are among the 25 foreigners still missing in Lebanon.

Former President Carter of the United States said he would discuss the fate of US hostages held in Lebanon during a visit to Syria next weekend (Reuters reports from Cairo).

He said he was not directly involved in talks to free the hostages "but I will meet with people in Syria who have information about them". Mr Carter helped to make peace between Egypt and Israel in 1979.

American Associated Press bureau chief in Beirut who has been held hostage for more than two years: "I don't have any precise information."

Of M Jean-Louis Normandin, the French television technician whose kidnappers on Tuesday postponed by a week their threat to murder

'Waite still trying to free hostages'

By Nicholas Beeston

A former American hostage held in Beirut said yesterday he believed that Mr Terry Waite was being prevented from leaving Lebanon because the kidnappers with whom he was negotiating were afraid of being identified and caught.

Mr David Jacobson, held by Lebanese Shia Muslim fundamentalists for 17 months until his release in November, made the announcement in London at a press conference to launch a petition to help to free at least 25 foreigners missing in Lebanon.

"Terry is not free to come and go because he could be followed, or his messages could be followed," Mr Jacobson, aged 55, the former administrator of the American University Hospital in Beirut, said.

But he stressed that the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy was not being mistreated and that the captors regarded him as an "equal and a gentleman" who was a partner in negotiations. He explained that during

his own captivity he was kept blindfolded and never saw his guards: they were afraid, he said, that he believed no one had heard from the envoy because the captors were afraid of being identified. "They are truly concerned that they will be apprehended," Mr Jacobson said.

But he did not think that Mr Waite had become another hostage. Nothing has been heard of the envoy since he disappeared on January 20 for talks with the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad group.

"I believe firmly that Terry is in as much control of his situation as he possibly can be. He is continuing to negotiate for the release of the hostages," he said.

Mr Jacobson and his son, Eric, are raising a petition in the US, Britain and Europe appealing to Sheikh Mohammed Fadallah, the Lebanese Shia Muslim head of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militia, to intercede on behalf of all the hostages.

Britain's aid policy defended

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, yesterday strongly defended Britain's foreign aid programme.

In an important speech he argued that it was not wrong to allow self-interest to play a part in aid policy. "We should not be coy about the extent to which to do what is right can also be to do what is good for Britain," he said.

He told the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London that aid could increase British influence abroad, create larger markets for British goods and help to prevent serious political problems arising from acute need.

"This is a case where virtue can bring its own reward, but the accent is on the word can. Aid is not always helpful to the donor, let alone the recipient," he said.

Britain's £1.3 billion aid programme was the sixth largest in the world and the third largest in Europe.

Reagan pledges to tell press everything on Iran arms

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan holds a crucial press conference tonight, his first in four months, and he predicted yesterday that his answers on the Iran-Contra affair would leave journalists "deliriously happy".

Peppered with questions at a picture-taking session with Senate leaders, Mr Reagan said that he would clear up everything, including a report in *The New York Times* yesterday that some of the Iran arms profits were used as payments to a Shia Muslim group believed to be holding American hostages in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the special prosecutor in the Iran arms affair and congressional investigators have agreed to grant limited immunity to Admiral John Poindexter and Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the two key figures in the scandal. This would compel them to testify but would not prejudice possible criminal cases against them.

The two congressional investigating committees also plan to grant limited immu-

nity to another former White House official and to a key figure in the private network supplying the Nicaraguan Contra rebels.

The two minor officials, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Earl and Mr Richard Gadd,



Admiral Poindexter, granted limited immunity.

are likely to be asked about the diversion of the Iran arms funds to the Contras. Mr Gadd, a retired military officer, reportedly helped to provide aircraft, and has close links with former General

Richard Secord, a key figure in the Contra supply operation.

Congress has been expressing exasperation at being unable to trace the proceeds from the arms sales. However, *The New York Times* said yesterday that several million dollars in profits might have been paid for some of the expenses incurred by the kidnappers in holding the American hostages in Lebanon.

The paper cited US officials and associates of Mr Manucher Ghorbanifar, the Iranian arms dealer. They said up to £1.8 million of the money Iran paid for arms was deposited by Mr Ghorbanifar in 1986 in the Swiss bank account of the Global Islamic Movement. This organization helped to finance terrorist groups in Lebanon, including the Shia Hezbollah (Party of God), believed to be behind many of the kidnappings.

Mr Ghorbanifar also made payments of as much as \$6 million (£3.7 million) to Mr Hashemi Rafsanjani, the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament.

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Alarm at teen suicides

'Cluster' deaths shock US parents

From Charles Brenner, New York

A macabre phrase has gained currency in America this week — "cluster suicide". Parents and teachers are being warned about the phenomenon after a series of copy-cat teenage suicides which began when four young people asphyxiated themselves in New Jersey last week.

On Tuesday, alarm over the apparent epidemic intensified when a woman aged 20 and her 17-year-old boyfriend were found by an alert policeman trying to kill themselves in the same garage in which the four had staged their deaths in the New Jersey town of Bergenfield a week before.

The couple, who had left rambling suicide notes, were dragged alive from the fume-filled garage. The police later removed the door of lock-up garage number 74, which had become something of a shrine for the depressed youth of the working-class suburban town.

The door had been dented with the legend "suicide wasteland". Bergenfield is still traumatized by the deaths of the two teenage sisters and their boyfriends. "Every kid

with a suicidal tendency is coming out of the woodwork," the town's police chief, Captain Daniel McNulty, said. "I'm worried about what they'll try next."

Earlier on Tuesday, a man aged 20 was found dead in his car in Staten Island, New York. The first apparent attempt to copy the pact of the Bergenfield young people took place on Thursday, when two teenage girls asphyxiated themselves in a garage in a southern Chicago suburb, one of them clutching a stuffed animal and a rose.

The deaths have highlighted an alarming increase in suicide rates among the young in America. These have doubled since 1972 to 6,000 a year, with 400,000 attempts recorded. The rate for the elderly is still far higher.

Since the New Jersey deaths, television and newspapers have been advising parents on how to identify the symptoms of suicidal tendencies and have urged teenagers to take their problems to experts, including "peer counsellors", fellow teenagers

trained to give advice. "The news coverage of teenage suicides can portray the victims as martyrs of sorts," Dr David Shaffer, a Columbia University psychiatrist, said. "The more sentimentalized it is, the more legitimate, even heroic, it may seem."

The experts call the copy-cat phenomenon the "Werther Syndrome", after the hero of Goethe's novel, *The Sorrows of Young Werther*. The book was banned in several countries in the late 18th century after a rash of suicides by young men.

For many Americans, the teenage suicides reflect a widespread feeling of hopelessness among a generation brought up in the moral vacuum of the 1960s and 1970s, affected by soaring rates of family breakdown, drugs and alcohol abuse.

The ghoulish tastes of American teenage culture in the 1980s are demonstrated by the success of horror films such as the *Friday the 13th* series and *Nightmare on Elm Street Part Three*, which is now breaking box-office records.

Chess title game is adjourned

By Raymond Keene

The ninth game of the world title eliminator in Linares, Spain, between Viktor Karpov and Andrei Sokolov was adjourned after 40 moves on Tuesday night.

Karpov enjoys an extra pawn, but the heavily reduced material gives Sokolov, who sealed his 41st move as White, chances to hold a draw.

The match score is now 5-3 to Karpov, with one game adjourned. The first player to 7½ points earns the right to challenge the world champion, Garry Kasparov.

White	Black	White	Black
1 44	48	23 44	48
2 44	48	24 44	48
3 44	48	25 44	48
4 44	48	26 44	48
5 44	48	27 44	48
6 44	48	28 44	48
7 44	48	29 44	48
8 44	48	30 44	48
9 44	48	31 44	48
10 44	48	32 44	48
11 44	48	33 44	48
12 44	48	34 44	48
13 44	48	35 44	48
14 44	48	36 44	48
15 44	48	37 44	48
16 44	48	38 44	48
17 44	48	39 44	48
18 44	48	40 44	48
19 44	48	41 44	48
20 44	48	42 44	48
21 44	48	43 44	48

Lloyds Bank Base Rate.

Lloyds Bank Plc has reduced its Base Rate from 10.5 per cent to 10 per cent p.a. with effect from Wednesday, 18 March 1987.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to Lloyds Bank Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

The change in Base Rate will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branch of The National Bank of New Zealand Limited.



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Zambia resumes weekly foreign exchange sales but IMF pact is elusive

From Paul Valley, Lusaka

An International Monetary Fund team has left Zambia without having reached an agreement on a package to rescue the country from its greatest financial and political crisis since independence.

The only fruit of three weeks of difficult negotiations with the Government is that the Central Bank announced yesterday that it is to resume from Monday the weekly auctions in which companies must bid for limited amounts of foreign exchange with which to import raw materials.

The auctions, suspended in January after the kwacha plunged to a record low, was part of the last deal with the Fund, but their renewal has not provided sufficient grounds for new IMF cash.

Ironically, the resumption of auctions follows news that Zambia has stopped shipping copper, its main export, to South Africa.

In pursuit of its policy of reducing dependence on its white neighbour, all shipments since August have gone through Tanzania and Mozambique.

During the last financial quarter, almost 100,000 tons went through Dar es Salaam and 17,000 tons via Zimbabwe and along the Beira Corridor.

The Minister of Mines, Mr Dickson Chitambala, who said that the move was not the start of sanctions but part of a continuing realignment, also announced that Zambia's parastatal mining company has closed its office in South Africa.

The re-establishment of the auctions, however, will pull in the opposite direction. In the short term the Government prefers auctions to the IMF option of a devaluation. This is presumably on the grounds that the auctions appear to shift responsibility for con-

tinuing devaluations on to the business community. Unfortunately in the long term the system of auctions will actually strengthen the country's dependence on South Africa. Because the bidding is done weekly, businesses need to shorten the time during which they have money tied up in imports in order to release cash needed to bid again the next week.

The result is that Zambian companies are now buying increasingly from South Africa because goods arrive from there by land within four or five days.

To import from outside Africa through Tanzania or Mozambique, the National Railways of Zimbabwe (NRZ) said yesterday that, despite the halt in the transit of Zambian copper exports, the flow of South African imports, which account for 64 per cent of all Zambia's foreign goods, were still moving unchanged from South Africa (Jan Raath writes from Harare).

Mozambique can take eight to nine weeks. Many Zambian businessmen were yesterday simply relieved that the auctions had restarted, ending the foreign exchange famine which was threatening widespread closures and redundancies in a nation where most industries are at least 30 per cent dependent on imported goods.

"There is the feeling that it is a small step in the right direction. It is more than was expected," one Western diplomat said.

Other observers had reservations about the auction scheme. "They have promised to pay off the backlog from the last three auctions immediately. They have promised that in future all successful bidders will receive the currency within three days. It

really is doubtful whether they can get together the money to do this," one financier said. "If they try and fail, then the damage they will do to international confidence will be tremendous. It will be worse than if they had never tried at all."

Where the money for the new auctions will come from is not clear. In the past about half came from copper revenues and half from international donors including the World Bank, which was a party to the unsuccessful IMF talks.

The donors are anxious to help. But most aid has been allocated with the condition that there must be an agreement with the IMF, another diplomat said.

The £17 million which Britain pledged to the auctions at the last meeting of donors has still not been disbursed, but there is not much likelihood that it could be released now until the new financial year, and then only with a change in policy.

A \$12.2 million (£7.6 million) commitment from the US is similarly frozen.

The new auction has two tiers. A rate fixed at between 9% and 12 kwacha to the dollar will apply to certain government transactions and debt servicing. The rate set by the auction, which is likely to be 13-15 kwacha, will apply to all other imports.

"In effect the rest of us will subsidise the Government, which will not encourage it to spend economically," another international businessman said.

The Government is understood to be negotiating alone with a commercial bank to repay its current IMF arrears of around \$175 million. But even when that is done the prospect of a full settlement with the Fund still seems months away.

Kohl offers hand of friendship to the East

From John England, Bonn

Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, yesterday spoke of his plans for East-West relations and nuclear disarmament, as well as domestic issues, when he outlined his policies for the next four years to Parliament.

On relations with the Soviet Union, he said that Mr Mikhail Gorbachev had awakened "great expectations. Our relations with the Soviet Union are of central importance for us."

If the Soviet leader's course held chances of more understanding, more co-operation and, above all, concrete results in disarmament and arms control, West Germany would take them up, he said.

But Bonn was also bound firmly to the Atlantic Alliance, which was the guarantee of West Germany's freedom and security. It would continue its efforts, he said, towards dialogue and co-operation with the Warsaw Pact states.

Nuclear disarmament, however, would increase the problem posed by the imbalance in conventional forces in Europe. The Warsaw Pact superiority in this area, especially its capability of launching a surprise attack, must be reduced.

On the "German question," Herr Kohl told Parliament: "We hold firmly to the unity of our nation. Our goal remains freedom and unity for all Germans." But Germans' fate was bound up with the entire East-West relationship.

West Germany would make all efforts to develop relations between the two German states in a "good, open climate," but would never accept the Berlin Wall or orders to East German guards to shoot at people trying to escape from East Germany.

On domestic issues, he said that there were plans to protect the environment, fight unemployment, and tackle other social questions.



Polish police in Wroclaw pulling a peace activist down from a column where he had been protesting at the expulsion of a medical student for refusing to do military service.

The Church in Hungary Vatican concerned at "collaboration"

From Richard Bassett, Budapest

A Papal envoy is in Budapest to confer with Hungary's new Primate, Bishop László Puskás, and to express the Vatican's concern at the attitude of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in Hungary.

In contrast to neighbouring Czechoslovakia, relations in Hungary between the Communist state and the Catholic Church are remarkably harmonious, but to a degree which many Catholics both inside and outside Hungary believe may be bordering on collaboration.

Under Bishop Puskás's predecessor, the late Cardinal László Lekai, the Catholic hierarchy toed the Government's line on a number of religious and political issues.

To the frequent disquiet of the Vatican, Cardinal Lekai supported the Government repeatedly against Catholic conscientious objectors who were imprisoned for refusing to be conscripted into the Hungarian armed forces. Unlike East Germany and Poland, conscientious objectors in Hungary have no community service which they may perform as an alternative to military service.

Cardinal Lekai's attitude to this issue earned him the sobriquet of "Comrade Lekai" among many young Hungarians.

His successor, the Bishop of Kolosvár, is widely believed to have been virtually imposed on the Vatican by the Hungarian Government. Few expect him to persuade Catholics to adopt a more robust anti-Communist role, or to defend the activities of conscientious objectors.

Nor is he expected to support the activities of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Pius, whose "base communities" have practised a more decisive Catholic attitude towards the state.

Monday's meeting between the bishop and the Vatican's envoy took place in considerable secrecy, but those close

to the upper echelons of the Catholic Church here doubt whether the new Primate will prove less accommodating towards the Government than did his predecessor.

It must be conceded that the policy described in official circles as one of "small steps" has enabled the Catholic Church in Hungary to retain its seminaries and, at Pannónia, the spectacular Benedictine monastery, a fee-paying Catholic boarding school — a remarkable survival in a Communist country.

None the less, the price paid is considered too high by the position of Mr Vladimir Sladkovsky, the one remaining Brezhnev appointee on the Politburo, was made even more isolated yesterday by the announcement that one of the Ukrainian chief's most senior officials had been removed from his post.

According to Pravda, Mr Viktor Boyko, aged 55, was dismissed by the party for "permitting serious shortcomings in his work."

many Catholics. "By compromising, the hierarchy gives in to a state which is ultimately dedicated to reducing the authority of the Catholic Church," a young monk confided while waiting to see Bishop Puskás.

"We are losing Catholics every year when Hungary, in the grip of a new wave of materialism, needs spiritual guidance of a more decisive character," he said.

The decline in moral values which has become prevalent with the dramatic increase in material prosperity in Hungary, is deeply disturbing to younger members of the Catholic Church.

If, as is widely predicted, Bishop Puskás continues the line of his predecessor, the Catholic Church's power to arrest this decline and to stand up for its spiritual values will continue to remain muted.

Japan leaders clash in public over tax reform

From David Watts, Tokyo

Leaders of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party have become deeply embroiled in an embarrassing public dispute about the future of the LDP's controversial attempt at tax reform.

Mr Shin Kanemaru, the Deputy Prime Minister, appeared to be stating the obvious this week when he said it was time to think of modifying the LDP's proposal before local elections next month.

The proposal, which includes a value added tax of five per cent, has met a flood of protest and caused a boycott of the Diet (Parliament) by the Opposition.

Mr Kanemaru was taken to task by Mr Masaharu Gotoda, the Chief Cabinet Secretary, who said after a Cabinet meeting that Mr Kanemaru had been expressing a personal opinion — shorthand for saying that neither the opinion nor its public expression suits the party.

Sovereignty of Macao Lisbon hand-over 'in 1999'

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

Portugal will hand over the administration of Macao to China on December 20, 1999, according to unofficial reports in Lisbon on the outcome of the fourth and final meeting between the two countries in Peking. The terms of the final agreement will be made public this week.

Portugal's council of state will meet in special session on Friday to examine the treaty which is scheduled to be signed in Peking, possibly in June. The Portuguese Prime Minister, Professor Aníbal Cavaco Silva, will travel to China for the ceremony.

The exact date of the transfer had been one of the main stumbling blocks holding up negotiations. Portugal wanted to keep control until well after the year 2000 to assure a smooth transfer which would safeguard the rights of the Portuguese-born there (the Mac-

anenses) and of the naturalized Chinese. They also wanted time to train a new staff of civil servants to take the place of the Portuguese and to safeguard the 500-year Portuguese cultural and language heritage.

But the Chinese were adamant in demanding an early date which would be in line with the transfer of Hong Kong by Britain in 1997.

There are still problems to overcome in the negotiations. Portugal is very concerned over the future of the estimated 80,000 Chinese in Macao who have the right to Portuguese citizenship; it considers them Portuguese and has asked that they be allowed to hold dual passports. But China considers them Chinese and has rejected the idea of dual passports.

Portugal is especially concerned over what will happen to them and to the Macanenses in the light of the terrible consequences of the 1975 decolonization of Portugal's African territory, particularly of Angola and Mozambique, where civil war has raged for 12 years and where hunger and suffering are widespread.

Portugal is also concerned that the 80,000 might opt for Portuguese citizenship and emigrate. It has already been forced to integrate the million people who returned from Africa after independence.

Reports from Macao meanwhile suggest that there is suspicion and apprehension about the future, but paradoxically there is a big scramble to make investments there. On July 30 tenders will be called to operate television and radio in Macao. Several groups are said to be interested, including Mr Stanley Ho, the multi-millionaire Chinese entrepreneur, and Australian, American and Portuguese interests.

VIPs find morale low in occupied Hebron

From Ian Murray, Hebron, occupied West Bank

It was Important Visitors Day at the old Beit Hadassah hospital by the edge of the Cashah here yesterday. The blue and white flags of Israel were up outside, as usual, and the armed guards were at their usual posts by the gateway, on the rooftops opposite or patrolling the streets nearby.

For Lieutenant General Moshe Levy it was the last official tour of the Jewish settlement in Arab Hebron before he hands over as Chief of Staff next month. He found the small detachment of soldiers there, mostly men doing

about the quality of food and sleeping accommodation inside their barbed-wire enclosure in the town, seemed unconvinced.

Not long after the General left, Mr Moshe Arens arrived for his first inspection since taking over as Minister responsible for Arab affairs of Beit Hadassah.

Built as a charity hospital where Jews treated Arabs until the Jewish community was massacred during the 1929 Arab riots, it has been converted into 11 flats for one of the most militant Jewish settler communities in the West Bank, and stands defiant in the heart of the Arab town.

Last week the Israeli High Court upheld a military ruling that Arab shops built behind it have to be confined by a high wire fence to lessen the danger of bombs being placed there to blow up the building.

Pictures in its basement museum show how the settlement was established after the 1967 Six Day War. "For the Kingdom of Israel shall be fulfilled in Hebron" reads the text at the start of the display.

Mr Arens rushed off on foot to see the ruined Jewish quarter, pausing briefly by a monument to Jewish students killed in Hebron in 1980: the Arab guide is reputed to be one of those sentenced for the killings and freed in a prisoner exchange two years ago. "The nation shall praise God as he avenges the blood of his faithful," the inscription says.

In the Jewish quarter, where flats are being built for settlers, Mr Arens, in his keffiyeh headscarf, chatted with an Arab foreman.

Then, with the disgruntled soldiers on the rooftops keeping a close watch on him, he returned to Beit Hadassah to encourage the settlers' leaders.

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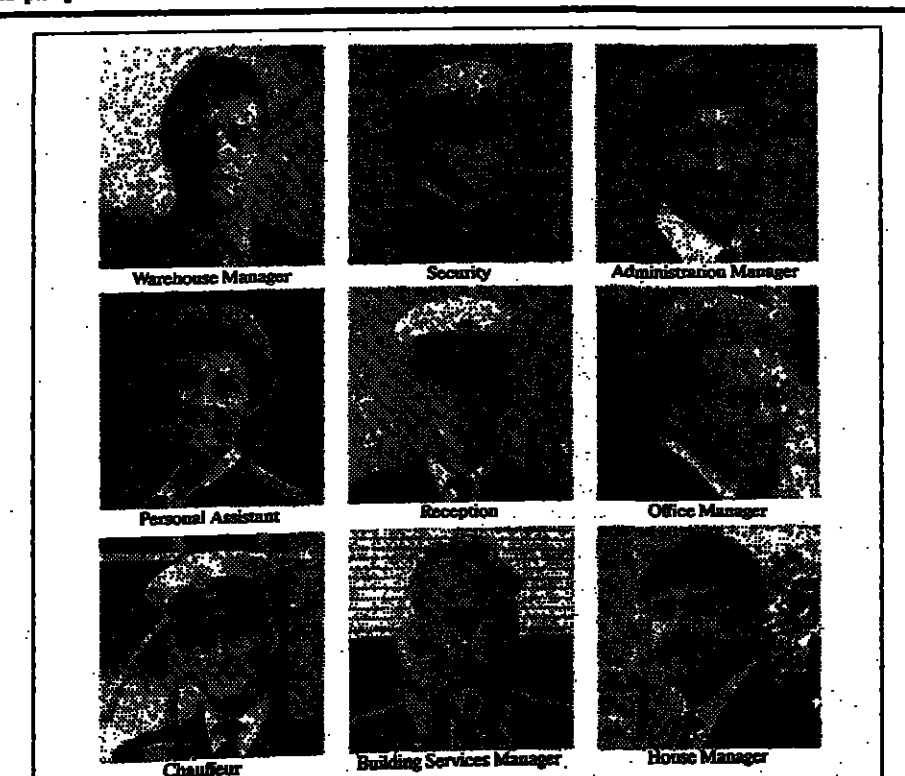
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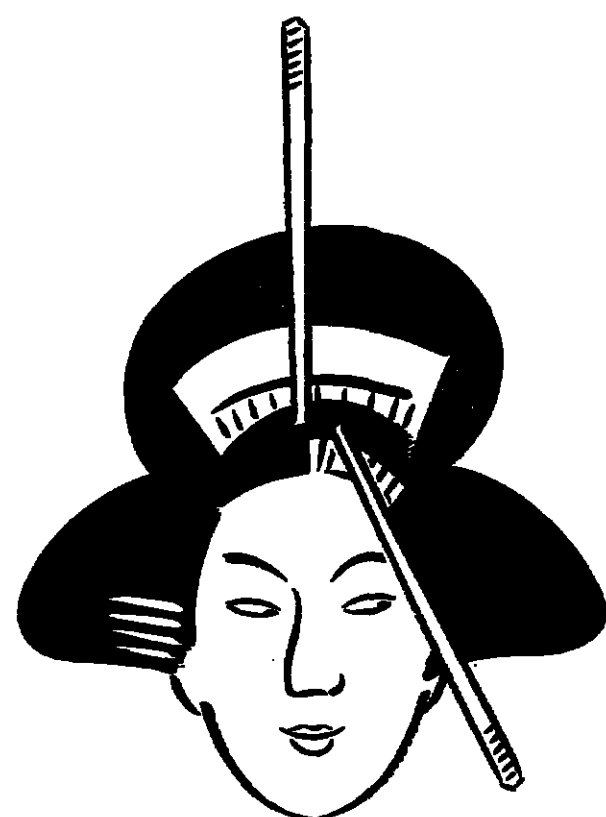
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Time-bomb
at military
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SPENS

Time-bomb kills four at military academy before visit by Aquino

From Keith Dalton, Manila

A time-bomb exploded yesterday at the Philippines Military Academy, killing four people and wounding more than 40 others. It went off in a grandstand that President Aquino was to use on Sunday to review the graduation parade of 149 cadets.

The explosion occurred hours after military headquarters announced the killing of 19 soldiers by a landmine detonated by Communist rebels in Quezon province, east of Manila.

The two incidents constitute a serious setback for the Aquino Government's efforts to bring the guerrilla war to a peaceful end, following the expiry of a 60-day ceasefire last month. Since then more than 300 people have died in renewed fighting all over the country.

The mid-morning blast occurred as about 100 officers and civilians sat in the grandstand watching rehearsals for the cadets' passing-out parade at the academy in Baguio, 130 miles north of Manila.

A large section of the grandstand roof collapsed on the spectators immediately after the explosion. The Armed Forces Radio reported that the remains of a crude time-bomb, including fragments of a clock, were discovered at the scene.

The dead, retrieved from the rubble, included two sergeants and the widow of a soldier who was to have received her husband's posthumous award for bravery fighting the rebels. A lieutenant-colonel died later in hospital.

The injured included 14 officers, five troops, 22 civilians and two army recruits, the state-run Philippines News Agency reported.

At the time of the explosion the graduating cadets were marching in formation a short distance from the grandstand on an announced personnel carrier and a troop-laden lorry in Cagayan, 110 miles east of Manila, in which the 19 soldiers were killed and seven were wounded. No casualties were reported among the rebels, who escaped with the soldiers' 27 rifles.

The military, however, are sure it was the work of New People's Army guerrillas, who are also held responsible for the killing of at least seven policemen in a string of street assassinations in Manila this month.

At least 200 rebels are blamed for yesterday's attack on an announced personnel carrier and a troop-laden lorry in Cagayan, 110 miles east of Manila, in which the 19 soldiers were killed and seven were wounded. No casualties were reported among the rebels, who escaped with the soldiers' 27 rifles.

The authorities broadcast appeals for blood, and the most seriously injured were flown by US helicopters to the American Hospital at the nearby Clark air base.

The bomb was planted on

the grandstand roof and debris shattered the stage where Mrs Aquino was due to review the cadets alongside the armed forces chief, General Fidel Ramos, the Defence Secretary, Mr Rafael Ilete, said.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, the most serious security breach at the academy since a renegade soldier, Lieutenant Victor Corpus, raided the armoury in 1970 and stole guns and ammunition for use by Communist rebels.

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Murderer-author faces death again

From David Watts, Tokyo

The Tokyo High Court has reinstated the death sentence against a multiple murderer who won one of Japan's top literary prizes and repeated of his four killings while in goal.

The case of Norio Nagayama was at the centre of a campaign to abolish the death penalty in Japan during the mid-1970s, and this ruling is likely to revive the debate.

Nagayama was a late-night coffee shop waiter aged 19 when he murdered four people with a handgun stolen from the US military between October and November 1968.

He killed a guard at the Tokyo Prince Hotel in October 1968 and another guard three days later in the grounds of the Yasaka shrine in Japan's ancient capital, Kyoto. A few weeks later he shot dead two taxi drivers in central and northern Japan, stealing about yen 7,000 — then the equivalent of about £7 — from each of them.

He was arrested the following year, and when his case came to trial in July 1979 he

was sentenced to death. But in 1981 the Tokyo High Court reduced the sentence to life imprisonment.

His prosecutors appealed, and the Supreme Court directed the lower court to impose the heavier sentence, saying that the death penalty should be carried out when motives, method and the number of victims merited the sentence.

Yesterday the High Court acted on that instruction, only for Nagayama's lawyer to appeal immediately.

Nagayama's autobiographical novel, *Wooden Bridge*, won the New Japan Literary Prize four years ago and became an instant best seller.

The book tells the story of a five-year-old boy in a family of four children abandoned by their mother. It is set in Abe-shiri, Hokkaido, one of the poorest areas of northern Japan, which suffers from both a harsh climate and unemployment.

A second novel, *Tears of Ignorance*, has also sold well,

and Nagayama has another unpublished manuscript with a similar theme.

His time in prison has not been wasted as well as reading Aristotle, Marx and Dostoevsky, he has written another book about marxism and translated into Japanese the works of a leading Dutch criminologist.

Judge Joichi Ishida said that Nagayama had had an extremely unfortunate childhood and that he sympathised with him to a certain extent, but that his crime of killing four people was unequivocally cruel. Considering the motive and the shock and horror felt by society, the death penalty was not too severe.

A critic of the death penalty in Japan said that the reinstatement of a more serious penalty was rare, especially in view of the length of the trial period. He criticized the judge for inconsistency in his argument and said that Nagayama had now become very idealistic and conscientious in his search for the roots of crime.



Soviet crew members visiting the Washington Monument after having been rescued by Coast Guard helicopter from their sinking cargo ship off the US east coast. President Reagan met the crew at the White House before they returned to Russia.

Tamil mediation efforts at standstill

From Michael Hamlyn, Colombo

Talks on ending the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka have been suspended, with the Government hoping to reduce the military confidence of Tamil separatists sufficiently to bring them to the negotiating table.

India, whose mediatory role has in the past three years brought concessions from the Sri Lankans, publicly condemns the military operations in the northern peninsula, but is said privately to be content to watch the rebels — in particular the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) — being humiliated. So far the LTTE has shown little sign of being prepared to talk.

But Sri Lankan officials also believe that the Indians are plotting to prevent the rebels from being overwhelmed. There are reports in Sri Lanka Government circles that ministers of the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu are arranging to give back to the rebels arms taken from them late last year by the state authorities.

Even more alarming for the Sri Lankans is the suspicion that "mercenaries" said to be

working with the rebels in the north are in fact Indians giving on-the-spot assistance or training.

Reports this week from the Sri Lankan news agency, Lankapavath, said that two Sikhs were among those killed when a petrol tanker, which was being prepared for a suicide bombing attack, exploded prematurely. The agency also said that two "Filipino-looking" men had been seen in Jaffna, the northern capital, with the LTTE leadership. A Defence Ministry official hinted that the two may have been Gurkhas.

Pressure is thus being brought on both sides in the protracted war to come to terms. Delhi believed that it had obtained a useful agreement from President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka when two Indian ministers visited Colombo before Christmas.

The agreement called for significant powers to be devolved to provincial authorities in the north and east, and Mr Jayewardene was persuaded that he could permit a referendum on the question of linking the two councils eventually. A second, more controversial element involved the withdrawal from the East-

ern Province of the Amparai electorate, composed largely of Sinhalese voters.

Cabinet hostility caused the President to hedge his commitment to the new deal, to the fury of the Indians, who promptly ceased their mediation efforts.

"Every member is privately opposed, and only one member is publicly in favour of the new proposals," one Cabinet member said. "But if we were convinced that this would actually bring peace we would all accept it."

Last month the Indians sent a demarche to the Sri Lankans setting out the conditions under which they would resume their mediatory role. The terms included the cessation of the "current military operations against Tamil civilians" and of the "measures like economic and communications blockades". The Indians also said that the December proposals must be affirmed as only a starting point for negotiations.

In his reply a few days later, Mr Jayewardene called first for an agreement by the LTTE to cease violent operations, to stop military preparations, not to interfere with the local administration and to announce that they were doing so. The Sri Lankan armed forces would "not carry out any further military operations". The embargo on the movement of certain commodities would also be lifted.

The President added that when talks began his Government would release people detained under the anti-terrorist legislation. He also promised a general amnesty when the separatists lay down their arms for good.

Mr Jayewardene's reply produced a mixed response in India. Some commentators said it was nothing new, but officials in the Indian External Affairs Ministry have welcomed it as providing a useful framework for a peace programme.

A further hopeful sign that matters may be moving more quickly is that last weekend Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, sent his personal representative to Colombo to hold talks with Mr Jayewardene. Observers say that Mr Gandhi's personal interest can only mean that India's withdrawal from the peace-making process is at an end.

Canadian threat to French fishermen

Ottawa — Canada has closed its ports to French fishing vessels as a signal to France to stop over-fishing in disputed waters south of Newfoundland (John Best writes).

The Government has threatened to arrest any French vessels caught fishing on the Burgeo Bank, 50 miles west of the French islands of St-Pierre and Miquelon.

Canadian officials allege that France has been exceeding its cod quota in the disputed zone, which extends south-eastwards from the Newfoundland coast.

Sunken riches

Copenhagen (Reuters) — Danish divers have found treasure worth about £19 million in the wreck of HMS Medina, which was sunk by a German torpedo in 1917 in the English Channel while returning from India loaded with Indian treasures.

Back blast

Athens — A Greek security guard was killed and another injured when their car, patrolling the perimeter track of Athens airport, was flung off the tarmac by the exhaust of a stationary Olympic Airways A300 Airbus testing its engines.

Tank crash

Amberg, West Germany (Reuters) — Twenty-nine people were injured, six of them seriously, when a US Army tank and a West German bus collided in Bavaria.

Pope's visit

Rome (Reuters) — The Pope will make an official visit to West Germany at the end of April.

Addis talks

Nairobi — Somalia will send a delegation to Addis Ababa for the next round of talks with Ethiopia, aimed at settling their long-standing dispute over the Ogaden border area.

Gold frame

Dhaka (Reuters) — Mr Mohammad Shafi, a Bangladeshi, has been arrested and accused of trying to smuggle £47,000 worth of gold into Bangladesh hidden in the frame of a child's bicycle.

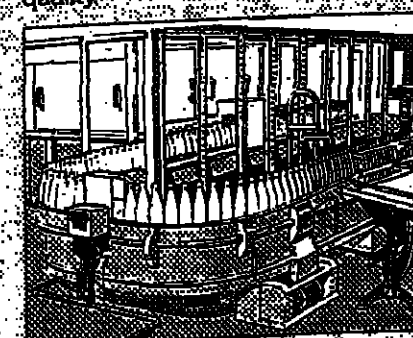
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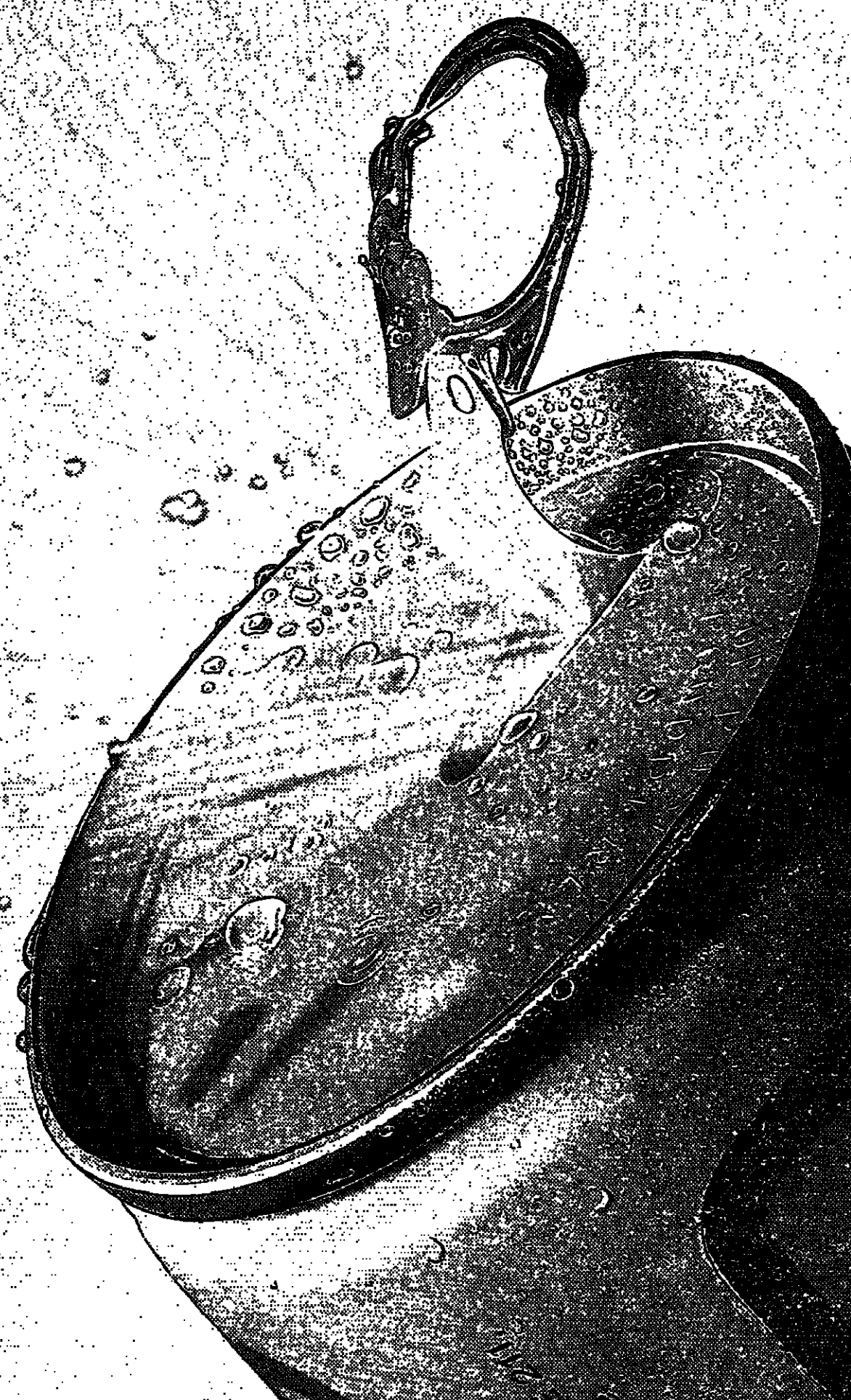
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Delay relevant to renewal of asset-freezing order

Lloyds Bowmaker Ltd v Britannia Arrow Holdings plc and Another
Before Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Glidewell (Judgment March 18)

Where there had been material non-disclosure by an applicant in obtaining a *Mareva* injunction, the other party was not debarred from seeking a discharge of the injunction on that ground even after a delay of two years.

However, a delay in pursuing the action after the grant of the injunction was a relevant factor to be taken into account by the court in deciding whether or not to preserve the status quo by granting the applicant a fresh injunction following the discharge of the original injunction.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Mr A. G. Lavens (trading as Comm-Ged Communications) from Sir Neil Lawson, who, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court on July 1, 1986, had refused to discharge a *Mareva* injunction obtained by Britannia Arrow Holdings plc to prevent the dissipation of Mr Lavens' assets within the jurisdiction.

Mr Jeffrey Burke, QC and Mr Colin Sturt for Lavens; Mr Patrick Twigg, QC and Mr Robert Moxon Browne for Britannia.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that it was almost two years after the grant of the *Mareva* injunction that Mr Lavens' application to discharge it came before the judge.

The point made before the judge and their Lordships was that a party to proceedings who sought an injunction *ex parte*, particularly a *Mareva* injunction, owed a duty to disclose to the court all facts which were material to the proceedings.

His Lordship took the view that the evidence revealed material non-disclosure. In accordance with the criteria laid down in *R v Kensington Income Tax Commissioners, Ex parte Princess De Polignac* ([1977] 1 KB 486), *Bank Mellat v Nikpour*

([1985] FSR 87); *Yardley & Co Ltd v Higson* ([1984] FSR 304) and *Eastglen Corporation v Monpara* ([1987] 137 NLJ 56), his Lordship took the view that the injunction granted should be discharged.

The fact that Mr Lavens' advisers waited two years to make the application could have been material if Britannia Arrow were put at a disadvantage by the delay, but his Lordship could not see that they were.

In that respect, the judge had held that the delay did not debar the application for setting aside the injunction and his Lordship agreed with him. The *Mareva* injunction should therefore be discharged.

Mr Twigg urged that even if the first injunction was discharged, the court should exercise its discretion to grant a further injunction or remit the matter to the High Court to enable a further application for a *Mareva* injunction to be made, and in some way to preserve the status quo in the meantime.

For some time his Lordship was of the opinion that that was probably the correct course to adopt. Certainly, on the more recent authorities it was his Lordship's view that the High Court would have a discretion to grant a second *Mareva* injunction, and it might well be that the court would have a discretion to preserve the status

quo pending the application.

Mr Burke argued, however, that it was at the present stage that delay did become relevant. He pointed out that it was now over two and a half years since the third-party proceedings against Mr Lavens were commenced and although the summons for directions was over two years ago, neither the action nor the third-party proceedings had been set down for trial.

His Lordship agreed that that was a most relevant consideration. A *Mareva* injunction was a draconian remedy. It was intended as an adjunct to the action, not as a substitute for relief to be obtained on trial.

A plaintiff who succeeded in obtaining a *Mareva* injunction was under an obligation to press on with his action as rapidly as he could so that if he should fail to establish liability in the defendant, the disadvantage which the injunction imposed upon the defendant would be lessened so far as possible. There was no sign that Britannia Arrow had been active in pressing ahead with proceedings.

His Lordship was persuaded that the court should not grant a fresh injunction or take any other step to preserve the status quo because of the delay.

Lord Justice Dillon agreed.

Solicitors: Matthew Trackman & Co; Smyth & Co.

Possession despite counterclaim

Citibank Trust Ltd v Ayivor and Another

Although a surveyor's report, which disclosed evidence of rising damp and dry rot in a dwelling house, and which was paid for by the defendant mortgagees but not supplied to them by the plaintiff mortgagee, gave rise to a counterclaim, such a counterclaim could not defeat the legal mortgagee's right to possession; even if the defendant's prospects on the counterclaim were good that did not justify the court exercising its discretion in favour of the defendants under section 36(1)

of the Administration of Justice Act 1970 as read with section 8 of the Administration of Justice Act 1973.

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies so held in the Chancery Division on March 11 when making an order in favour of the plaintiff for possession of the defendants' dwelling house within 28 days.

HIS LORDSHIP said that *Barclays Bank plc v Toner* (unreported, CA, June 6, 1984) showed that a counterclaim did not affect the legal right to possession.

Section 36 modified the rule

that a mortgagee was entitled to possession by conferring a discretion on the court, but when the mortgagee was in arrears it might exercise such powers only "if... the mortgagee is likely to be able within a reasonable period to pay any sums due under the mortgage..."

See *Western Bank Ltd v Schindler* ([1977] Ch 1).

But on the evidence, the existence of the counterclaim did not mean that the defendants were likely "to be able, within a reasonable period" to pay off the arrears.

Section 36 modified the rule

Injunction hinders US bankruptcy

Felixstowe Dock & Railway Co v United States Lines Inc Freightliners Ltd v Same Europe Container Terminals BV v Same
Before Mr Justice Hirst (Judgment March 12)

An English court was not obliged to set aside *Mareva* injunctions obtained against an American company on the ground that by restraining the removal of the company's English assets, the court was preventing the assets from being administered by the US Bankruptcy Court and a creditors' committee pursuant to a scheme under Chapter 11 of the United States Federal Bankruptcy Code.

The existence of the Chapter 11 scheme was only one of the matters to be weighed in the balance in determining whether the injunctions should be discharged.

Mr Justice Hirst so held giving a chambers judgment in open court in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division and dismissing applications by United States Lines Inc to set aside three *Mareva* injunctions obtained against them by the plaintiffs, Felixstowe Dock & Railway Co (FDR), Freightliners Ltd (FL), and Europe Container Terminals BV (ECT), respectively.

Mr David Steel, QC and Mr Charles Haddon-Cave for FDR; Mr William Norris for FL; Mr Jonathan Harvie for ECT; Mr Geoffrey Brice, QC and Mr Nigel Meeson for USL.

MR JUSTICE HIRST said that USL carried on a worldwide shipping business. They were incorporated in the United States of America and also carried on business in the United Kingdom.

After encountering severe financial difficulties, USL petitioned the US Bankruptcy Court under Chapter 11 of the US Federal Bankruptcy Code and obtained a "restructuring order".

Such an order froze any claims against the company and enabled it to survive as a going concern while undergoing reorganization and restructuring under the supervision of the creditors' committee and the court.

USL's position in September 1986, as disclosed by the Chapter 11 petition, showed assets of US\$1.25 billion and liabilities of US\$1.272 billion; but the company's English liabilities amounted to £2.4 million with assets of only about £720,000.

Under the Chapter 11 reorganization and restructuring it was USL's intention to close down their European operations and concentrate their shipping activities mainly in North America.

Each of the plaintiffs had claims against USL and had obtained *Mareva* injunctions in England restraining USL from removing assets from the jurisdiction.

In the present proceedings USL applied to set aside the *Mareva* injunctions on the ground that international comity required that the English courts should recognize the restraining order of the US Bankruptcy Court and allow it to govern the disposition of USL's assets in England; and that the *Mareva* injunctions, by preventing them from being administered in accordance with the intentions of the Chapter 11 scheme and would allow the plaintiffs to gain priority over other creditors.

For the plaintiffs, it was submitted that the fundamental purpose of the injunction was to protect plaintiffs against a defendant transferring assets

abroad so as to make him judgment-proof, leaving the plaintiffs with worthless judgments; and that any question of discharge or variation of the injunction in the present case was essentially one of discretion: the court should have regard to all the circumstances of the case in order to determine what justice required.

His Lordship said that it was indeed incumbent on the court to take into account all the relevant circumstances in the exercise of its discretion.

The Chapter 11 procedure was a very important circumstance, but it could not properly be treated as an overriding consideration so as to accord to it any kind of paramountcy or dominance over all others.

The court had to weigh up the competing assertions of the parties as to the irreparable prejudice which would follow from the continuance or discharge of the injunctions and the overall balance of convenience, applying the principles laid down in *American Cyanamid Co v Ethicon Ltd* ([1975] AC 396).

The retention of the assets in the UK would give the plaintiffs security for a worthwhile percentage of their debts, whereas if the same fund were to be transferred to the USA, it would be a mere drop in the

ocean of the total assets and of marginal benefits to USL and the US creditors.

USL would suffer no material prejudice if the injunctions continued, since the assets would remain in the UK and there was no prospect of their being distributed without the intervention of ancillary winding-up proceedings.

It had been conceded, conditionally, that England was the appropriate forum for the resolution of the plaintiffs' claims and accordingly any objection to the English court continuing a conventional ancillary order was very weak.

On the other hand, if the injunctions were discharged, the plaintiffs would suffer substantial prejudice, seeing that the funds would be used to keep USL alive as a going concern in a manner from which the plaintiffs could not possibly derive any benefit because of USL's withdrawal from Europe.

Taking those considerations into account, and applying the *American Cyanamid* test, the overall balance of convenience strongly favoured the continuance of the injunctions.

Solicitors: Mr Simon K. Osborn, St Pancras, Westthorp Ward, Catchpole, Felixstowe; Norton Rose Bortrell & Roche; Hill Dickinson & Co.

No tax concession in avoidance case

Regina v Commissioners of Inland Revenue, Ex parte Fulford-Dobson and Another

There was no valid challenge to the decision of the Board of the Inland Revenue to refuse to extend "extra-statutory concessions" in a case where the admitted motive of the transaction was to avoid capital gains tax; nor were such extra-statutory concessions unlawful.

Mr Justice McNeill so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 26 in refusing an application for *certiorari* to quash the decision of the Board of the Inland Revenue that concession D2 in *Extra-Statutory Concessions in Operation* at August 8, 1980 (IR 1 1980) did not apply in the instant case.

HIS LORDSHIP said that that concession provided that no capital gains tax was chargeable against UK residents who left the UK and ceased to be resident. That concession was subject to a general provision that concessions would not be given in any case where an attempt was made to use it for tax avoidance.

The case had been properly brought by way of judicial review since extra-statutory concessions could not be challenged by any other appeal procedure.

Lesser use certificate

Bristol City Council v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

When granting an established use certificate under section 94 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 the Secretary of State for the Environment might grant a certificate for a lesser use than that described in the application.

Mr Justice Stuart Smith so held in the Queen's Bench Division on March 16 in dismissing an appeal by Bristol City Council against the Secretary of State's grant of a certificate that premises at Fremantle Road, Bristol had an established use as a house in multiple occupation as six

households with six occupiers but refusal of a certificate that the premises had an established use as a house in multiple occupation as seven households with nine occupiers, as described in the application.

HIS LORDSHIP said he could see no reason for holding that either a local planning authority's power to grant a certificate under section 94(4) or the secretary of state's power under section 95(2) should be limited to the two situations described in section 94(3).

Section 94(3) covered two special cases and those two cases should not govern the implied power of the sections. Interpretation of the Act in that way would have no consequences.

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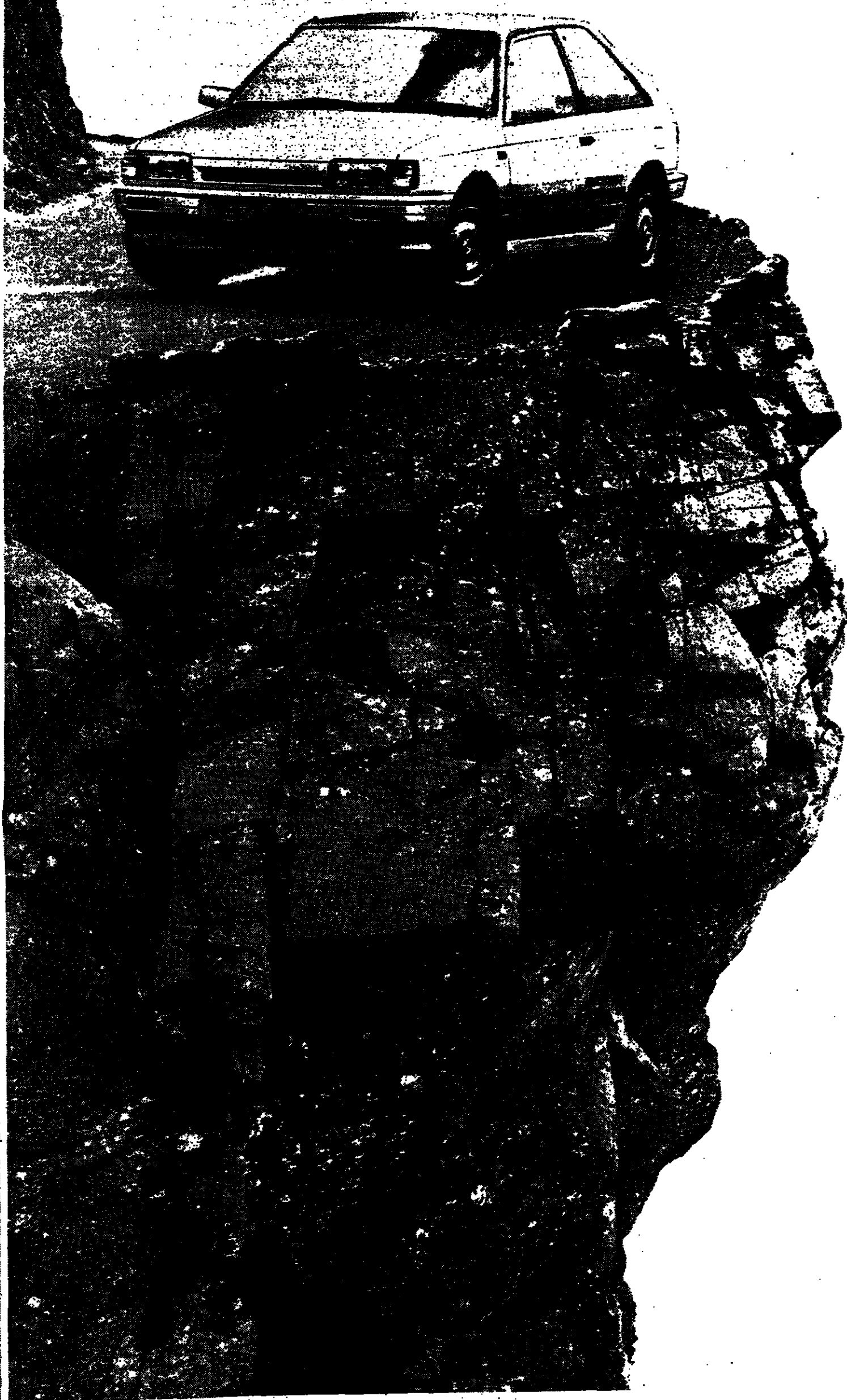
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Private man, public eye

There is no easy way of being the next Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. Everybody is with you in your fight against crime, but everybody is against you because the figures seem to show that you are failing. Many will loathe your efforts to contain industrial or racial unrest. Many more will be suspicious of your motives and want you watched with ever greater care. Meanwhile, the Government will refuse to acquiesce to your demands for greater manpower. And finally the whole package will be a continual threat to the morale of your own troops.

This week the unwholesome brew was made yet more potent by figures showing an apparent acceleration in the growth of crime. This was combined with a pre-election eagerness to exploit the figures rather than to think about them. Labour said they showed the Government was failing, the Conservatives said the police had to deliver results before being given more manpower. Peter Imbert, meanwhile, the man due to accept the poisoned chalice from Sir Kenneth Newman on August 1, was quietly and unofficially meeting people.

The job of commissioner has a much higher profile than any other job in the police and, inevitably, every new appointee seems to emerge from the shadows. In Imbert's case this is as true as ever. He is a man to whom clear characteristics seem not to cling — in public at any rate — and whose staid identification as a "copper's copper" have made him seem a somewhat specialized individual. Even his recreations — golf and gardening — have a suitably anonymous air.

He is 54 and was educated at Harvey Grammar School at Folkestone in Kent. Beyond that his education extends only to courses in Russian and shorthand while he was a member of the Special Branch — a foreign lan-

THE TIMES PROFILE

PETER IMBERT

This week saw the publication of the worst crime figures on record. What can we expect from the new man at the Met?

guage and/or shorthand used to be the only definite qualifications laid down for membership of the Branch. After national service in the RAF and a brief spell in local government, he joined the Metropolitan Police in 1953.

From then on his career was to be a steady and exemplary rise through the ranks. But it was not to be a career in mainstream policing. He spent much of his time in the Special Branch investigating terrorists. He rose to become Deputy Operational Head of the Met's Anti-Terrorist Squad in 1973 and, in 1975, his head suddenly appeared above the public eye when he worked for six days, 12 hours a day, negotiating with the IRA men cornered in a flat in Marylebone's Balcombe Street.

From that point his career seemed to take off. He became Assistant Chief Constable of Surrey, Chief Constable of Thames Valley in 1979 and finally Sir Kenneth's deputy in January 1985. Through the years a limited degree of largely favourable publicity seemed to attend his moves and he took on a conscientiously international role, lecturing worldwide on ways of dealing with

terrorists and sieges. But at Thames Valley he took a startlingly bold step that many would not argue misfired. He allowed BBC television cameras to film a series of five documentary programmes called, simply, *Police*. It was a move that some say was directly inspired by the open-door policies of press and public relations that had been pursued by Sir Robert Mark at the Met. The Mark strategy was to enlist as much of the public on his side as he could, simply by exposing the nature of the problems, and it was this justification which Imbert used afterwards. "I think the public are not only entitled but almost have a duty to know the difficulties of policing."

The scale of the risk he had taken became clear when one episode showed some of his detectives interviewing a rape victim. The police as a whole were pilloried for the starkness and brutality of the scene and the suffering caused to somebody who was, after all, supposed to be an innocent victim.

Shaken, Imbert started an investigation into interview techniques. It was a shocking baptism into the dangers of publicity for the man at the top. But one sympathetic former policeman defends Imbert's action: "What people don't realize is that the showing of that programme resulted in a tightening up of procedures in all police forces. Opening the door to publicity helped everybody."

In the event Imbert's career was unaffected. At Thames Valley he proved himself a smooth administrator, able to cope with the complications created by the fact that he had inherited an authority which had only just been created by amalgamating three smaller constabularies. Perhaps helped by the relative affluence and conservatism of the region, he ran into none of the usual clashes between



BIOGRAPHY

1933: Born April 27, in Kent. Educated at Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone.
1953: Joins Metropolitan Police.
1956: Marries Iris Dove. One son, two daughters.
1973: After work in Special Branch, made deputy operational head of Metropolitan Police Anti-Terrorist Squad.
1975: Negotiator at the Balcombe Street siege.
1976: Assistant Chief Constable, Surrey Constabulary.
1979-85: Chief Constable, Thames Valley Police.
1985: Deputy Commissioner Metropolitan Police.
1987: Metropolitan Police Commissioner.

local police committee and the force. "He was a popular man," says one former colleague.

All in all it is a story that offers few clues to what he might do to the Met. Certainly the open-door policy is likely to continue and Imbert seems better qualified than Sir Kenneth to pursue it. Sir Kenneth has always been a slightly academic, theoretical and somewhat remote figure whose belief in frankness has not easily been translated into practice.

Imbert, by contrast, is pragmatic, amiable and approachable. He tells anecdotes to prove points and makes much of the "six black faces in my family" — he has multi-racial in-laws — to pre-empt any charges of racism. He even thought it worth mentioning the pink streaks in his daughter's hair and her punk boyfriend as a way

of establishing a lack of prejudice. And he is given to homely anecdotes about a copper's lot. He tells stories of constables convinced, without clear evidence, that something is suspicious and finally being vindicated with the aid of backup from sympathetic "governors". This last element is important as he believes in the sanctity of the man on the front line's "hunch".

"That hunch or instinct that something's wrong," he has written, "is hard to define. But every policeman knows it."

This is not just a veteran's sentimentality, it is intended as a direct criticism of last year's Police and Criminal Evidence Act as well as every other attempt to tie the force's hands. For Imbert, like many other policemen, believes that the empirical reality of polic-

ing is what counts. Results can be achieved only if the men on the street are allowed to follow their noses without being hindered by legislation or political interference.

This, of course, is all good nonsense, get-on-with-the-job stuff. But it leaves one big question unanswered about his role at the Met.

"Imbert is not a great intellectual," observes one of his former bosses. At Thames Valley this may not have seemed so important. But London has an inescapable intellectual dimension. It is not just another constabulary — it is the representative police force. Not only does it have the biggest policing problems, it is also at the political sharp end. This means that much of the time Imbert will be setting

priorities at a national rather than a local level. And at this level one man's dogged pursuit of a hunch can all too easily become another man's infringed civil liberty.

The same former policeman believes this demands a high degree of intellectual insight. "For him, as for many others, the crime figures are a red herring. For a start the police are convinced that the figures are unduly high because of increased reporting — by victims as well as by the police — of crime rather than increased incidence."

But, more importantly, crime is not simply a police problem and it includes large areas in which the police can, in fact, do absolutely nothing. In addition, "Sir Kenneth's continuing plea for more money for more officers is not central. Instead, he says, 'what are the two key questions of public order in its widest sense and police accountability'."

The first involves complex issues of politics, race and industrial disputes in which the police are simply not able to rely on a broad base of public support and the second raises the issue of their constitutional role and the degree to which effectiveness can be traded off against perceived justice. So far Imbert has suggested the use of a crown court judge as an Ombudsman as a sop for the demands for more accountability.

But both issues require a good deal more than the chivalry, homely virtues of a "copper's hunch". It remains to be seen whether Imbert has more to offer.

Bryan Appleyard

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Big Golden Mountain (Dajinshan) rises out of the foothills that form much of Pinggu County, 90 miles north-east of Peking. At the base of the mountain lies the village of Jiangjungen. General Pass, named for an adjacent break in the Great Wall.

Around the dusty village with its population of 1,000 households, enormous pink sows burrow contentedly into the yellow loess soil of the North China plain. In the still, clear air children's voices mingle with familiar household sounds.

Such scenes are repeated every day across China. What is unusual about Jiangjungen is that, in two swatches, each 12 feet long, the main street of the village is paved with gold. Men wielding long-handled rakes spread dull, flaky ore, mixed with stones and earth, so that it will dry quickly. After drying in the sun, the ore-laden earth is scooped up by shovel and carried a few hundred yards to four primitive grinding stones which transform it into fine gravel, mixed in its turn with water to form a slurry.

The peasants throw the slurry on to one of 12 wooden pens and wash it with more water, just as California prospectors did in the 1840s. The water carries away the lighter dirt, leaving behind the heavier gold, which

There's gold in those old hills

is taken by bicycle to a nearby Bank of China collection centre where villagers receive as much as 994 yuan, about £190, an ounce.

For the last seven years the village has been allowed to develop for itself a State gold mine located high up on the slope of Big Golden Mountain. The programme is part of

More liberal economic laws now allow the peasants of China to mine gold for their private profit

Mr Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms, which focus on creating light industries in rural areas. More than 80 per cent of the village's able-bodied workers dig gold on Dajinshan. Previously, the mine, which predates the Communist take-over in 1949, was run by State workers. Now the State provides only basic maintenance. Some families, said Mr Cai Rongguai, a village spokesman, make as much as £1,900 a year from their share of the gold profits. That figure seems all the more remarkable when one consid-

ers that the villagers mine gold only in winter. In summer they spend most of their time raising wheat, vegetables, pigs, goats and sheep.

The mine has brought them unprecedented prosperity. Television antennae sprout from roofs, and most of the dwellings are less than four years old. The few derelict buildings that remain from pre-gold rush days testify to the villagers' former poverty. Each male villager who can wield a pick and shovel is paid for as much gold as he can bring out of the mine. The miners may keep all the money from the gold that they sell, but the State taxes them up to two-thirds of the total amount they earn from the mine each year. Gold has also brought new prosperity to China as a whole. State statistics claim that more than 200,000 Chinese now prospect for gold on their own, with the most

lucrative gold-producing centres located in Qinghai and Guangdong provinces, and in the Ningxia Hui and Inner Mongolia autonomous regions.

According to China Gold Company officials, during 1986 there was a 14 per cent increase in gold production. But like oil production figures, precise gold statistics remain closely guarded secrets in China.

That increase, on top of 10 years of 10 per cent annual production boosts, has added billions of US dollars to China's coffers through international sales of gold at more than \$400 (about £260) an ounce.

China's increased gold production may be attributable in part to the fact that its gold and hard currency reserves have dipped below \$10 billion (about £6.4 billion), a relatively high level by international standards that nevertheless alarms the penny-pinching Central Government. This year Pinggu County alone will contribute about 300 kilograms of pure gold to the national gold-gathering effort.

Some Western historians say that China has been mining gold for more than two millennia.

Robert Grieves

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It's back to square one

Why disillusioned maths and physics graduates are quitting industry and returning to school for teaching careers



'All over Britain you'll find people who feel a real attraction to teaching'

Dr Bob Campbell (second left)

aged 41, a computer programmer from Brighton. "And I'm not too happy about children making so much use of calculators."

"Well, today we concentrate on doing things," said the tutor. "Even if the kids think of it as a game, they still get exercise in maths and the calculators allow you to concentrate on relationships between numbers without the drudgery of hand calculations."

A hundred yards away, 15 physics graduates were tackling laboratory experiments. "How would you react to a pupil pointing to a circuit and asking 'why is one bulb brighter than the other?'" asked Campbell. "I'd explain Ohm's Law and write an equation for the circuit," said Bill, a 44-year-old Keighley chemist with a PhD. "No marks there," said Campbell. "I'd change the circuit around to find the reason," said Sally, aged 26, a scientist with the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority. "That's more like it," said Campbell. "Experiment to find exactly what's happening and you can then work out why."

The second day, spent in York comprehensive schools, came as a shock to many and was the turning point of the course. "I was very surprised," said Bill. "I was looking for graffiti and disorder but the atmosphere was fine. But it was a shock meeting with children. I like the idea of teaching but I don't think I could cope with the daily wear."

Jean's reaction was quite the opposite. "Today in school was fantastic. I had a lot of worries but they all evaporated. The staff were so enthusiastic. They really believe the job is worth the hassle. I've felt that way for a long time but never realized it. I'm so fired up now — I'm hooked!"

"We didn't put anything special on," explained Mike Plevins, head of science at Huntingdon School. "They saw everything, warts and all. But getting some mature teachers with industry and business backgrounds into schools is a great idea. I'm amazed at the numbers and their qualifications are incredible. Computers and electronics are the buzz words when you appoint a physics teacher. Look at John there. Twenty-two years in the electronics industry, research and production and enjoys mountaineering and martial arts. The schools will be fighting each other to give him a job."

The students have pretty uniform reasons for considering a new career. Martin, a 33-year-old PhD scientist with British Gas, is typical. He works near London and "has always fancied teaching."

Research, secured a better bet but now he's disillusioned. "The cost of living down south is ridiculous," he said. "The mortgage on our £45,000 flat is crippling us and the career structure is incredibly stodgy. I'll lose £2,700 a year moving to teaching but the cheaper housing up north will make it worthwhile."

About one-third of the students couple a new career with a move away from the south-east. Most are unhappy with their present jobs and one-third are unemployed. Bob Campbell's conviction that many talented mature people are just waiting to be spotted was certainly borne out by 275 inquiries and 136 applicants for 30 places.

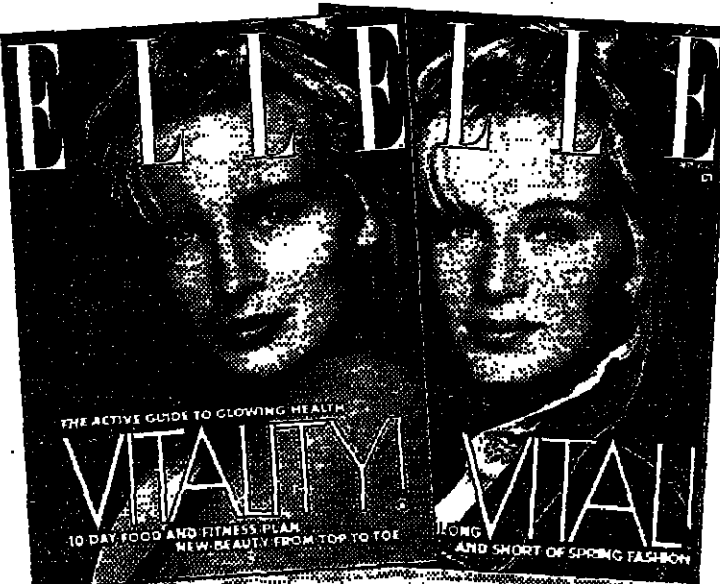
New teachers, acquired in this way could help solve the maths and physics teacher shortage. That situation already appears bad, but Campbell believes the underlying problem is even worse. New recruits in these subjects are falling, and schools are forced to appoint the "least weak" candidates from a poor field. Increasing numbers are leaving teaching and the true shortfall is masked by many teachers who are untrained in maths and physics transferring from other subjects. The pupil boom expected in the 1990s will coincide with this growing shortage.

Campbell believes that mature recruitment is the answer and the university agrees. The £17,500 course was backed by the Manpower Services Commission, and the Department of Education at York has already applied for University Grants Committee funds to hold a second one.

Keith Hindley

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9. Gathered ruff (7)
10. Nearest pub (5)
11. Plant bristle (4)
12. Pulsating (7)
14. Outstanding work (11)
18. Wine merchant (7)
19. As well (4)
22. Varnish compound (5)
24. Double decker (7)
25. R.C. conscience examination (6)
26. Ennui (6)

DOWN

1. Sleeve end (4)
2. Wanton (5)
3. N.Y. commercial island (9)
5. Piercing tool (3)
7. Very out of date (7)
7. Make weaker (6)
8. Aiden Barry (11)
11. Tonal (3)
12. U.K. coin emblem (9)
15. Memory loss (7)
16. Moral (3)
17. Disinclined (6)
20. Straight laced (5)
21. Second-hand (4)
23. Born (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1209

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HEALTH

The ills of efficiency

Why is a hospital that has slashed waiting lists and improved after-care being penalized for its success?

Jill Sherman reports

Last month, Social Services Secretary Norman Fowler visited the rural town of Kidderminster, in Worcestershire, which lies at the heart of one of the most efficiently run district health authorities in Britain. Kidderminster can boast that it treats more patients per bed than any other authority, that it has low costs and short waiting lists, and has an excellent service for the mentally ill and mentally handicapped. For the patients it means faster appointments, shorter waiting times and better after-care.

The district appears to have achieved everything that the Government has been pressing for over the last few years, and is now proudly held up by Fowler as an example to other health service managers. But as Fowler was told forcefully on his recent visit, the authority is being penalized for its own efficiency.

As more patients are seen, so the costs rise. Waiting lists have crept up as general practitioners refer more patients for operations such as hip replacement. This week the district will be discussing contingency plans for redundancies and ward closures which will mean cuts in patients' services for the first time. Doctors are being told to hold down the number of operations performed. The apple of Fowler's eye has been pared to the core and most of the pips have been squeezed.

"The good times are over," says Kidderminster district general manager, Jeremy Hallett. "It costs to be successful. If we were in industry we would get the Queen's Award for Industry and our profits would soar. In the NHS we get the reverse — we are penalized."

Performance indicators, comparing one authority against another, are now the buzz words in the Department of Health and Social Security and Kidderminster scores top marks in most areas. While the average health authority in England treats under 40 patients a year in a general surgery bed, Kidderminster District General Hospital treats 65. Its record in trauma and orthopaedics is even higher with 73.2 patients



Paying the price of excellence: Cutbacks rather than expansion for Caroline Martin, head of Kidderminster's acute and community service

seen per bed compared to the national average of 32.

A patient would expect to stay an average five and a half days in a general medical bed at Kidderminster DGH, while in other parts of the country he would have to stay nearly twice as long.

In some parts of the country doctors are now beginning to fight against the pressure of increasing turnover in hospitals and claim that people are being dumped on the community. But Hallett says that Kidderminster has one of the highest ratios of community

ill and the mentally handicapped, both hailed as some of the best in the country. This reputation has now encouraged families with mentally handicapped children to move to Kidderminster. Derek Muhl, unit general manager for mental handicap, is brimming with ideas on how to improve services. One of his most successful projects has been a bungalow providing residential and respite care for six mentally and physically handicapped children.

Most of the children have been transferred from a ward for mentally handicapped children in Lea Castle Hospital, Kidderminster, which has now closed. The bungalow was furnished using £10,000 from the Government's £1 for £1 scheme, matching resources from the local parents and friends association.

Good management has held the rein on an uncontrollable development of patient services. The district is divided into two management units — acute and community, headed by Caroline Martin, a former deputy administrator at Bristol Royal Infirmary, and the mentally handicapped unit, headed by Muhl.

In the past three years the district has saved one per cent of its £2 million budget every year, which has been put towards a pool for priority services. The savings have come mainly from competitive tendering for services such as laundry and cleaning, energy savings of £50,000 and reductions in ancillary, administrative and clerical staff. Capital savings have come from the sale of surplus NHS property.

'The good times are over. It costs to be successful'

nurses in the country, and a high number of health visitors, so that people coming out of hospital have access to good support.

Kidderminster's record is partly an historical accident. It is a small district, with only one acute — or district general — hospital. The GPs get on well with the consultants and the consultants seem to be on unusually good terms with the managers.

The district has also built a new medical block recently, and a new geriatric unit. "Good facilities attract good people," says Dr Richard Taylor, chairman of the medical staff committee.

Unusually good relations with the local authorities in the area have also helped the development of facilities in the community, particularly those for the mentally

Hallett suspects that it will be difficult to find further cost improvements. "You cannot go on becoming more and more efficient. We have reached the point where any more savings will start to cut into the basic level of health care provision."

Yet, under pressure from regional managers and legally bound not to overspend each year, Hallett has now told his unit general managers that more cost improvements must be made next year — the acute and community unit alone having to find

'We are not getting any rewards for our high performance'

£100,000. Caroline Martin is now having to make invidious choices about services. These have included asking consultant orthopaedics to reduce the number of hip operations they perform so that they can take on more knee implants that used to be done outside the district. The district already relies on the local League of Friends to fund the cost of all medical equipment and some maintenance work.

Martin has drawn up a list of 30 service developments which will now be scrapped, including extra nurses and clinicians to cope with the increased workload caused by the unit's fast turn-round of patients; plans for a comprehensive call and recall system for cervical cytology has also had to be abandoned. The existing

Slower cars but faster children

The Budget cut in the price of lead-free petrol may hit speeding, but could produce brighter youngsters. Liz Gill reports

The Chancellor's move to cut the cost of lead-free petrol is a milestone in an important health crusade: it gives a financial boost to an environmental ideal. So far motorists have had to balance conscience against cost — if they could find such petrol in the first place as it is only available at about 200 outlets in Britain.

But now both ecologists and experts in the motor industry believe that at least the way has been paved for a major change. The dangers of lead pollution have been long established. The greatest concern has been aroused by research linking it with adverse effects on children's intelligence.

As a neurotoxin, lead interferes with the biochemistry of the brain, causing concentration and learning difficulties and a reduction in intelligence. One recent survey in Glasgow found that some children with a high lead content in their bodies had IQs six points lower than those without. Other studies have linked increased levels to hyperactivity and hyper-aggression, leading to such antisocial behaviour as hooliganism and violent crime.

The other problems with lead are that, unlike many other pollutants, it remains in the atmosphere for hundreds of years, its effects are only partly reversible and there is no safety threshold for its absorption. This is measured in micrograms of metal per decilitre of blood. The point at which one would go into coma is 80; the point at which alarm bells ring for the Department of Health is 25 — that's where they start trying to discover the source.

However, because children are small, some specialists believe they can suffer behavioural and intelligence disturbances at levels as low as five micrograms per decilitre. Most children in urban areas have levels of between 10 and 25, according to CLEAR, the Campaign for Lead Free Air.

Dr Robin Russell Jones, the chairman, says: "Lead is introduced into petrol artificially as a way of boosting the octane level and hence the performance. What we've always said is that you have to choose between the performance of your car and the performance of your child."

A report in 1983 from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution cited lead as a potential toxin for all vertebrates

and recommended immediate reduction in man-made dispersal. In a developed country the motor car is said to be responsible for 90 per cent of the emissions. The government accepted the principle (two spin-offs were that lead in paint was outlawed and fishing weights more strictly controlled) and at the beginning of last year, as an interim measure, lead emissions were reduced by 50 per cent in petrol.

In 1985, an EEC directive required all members to make lead-free petrol available by 1989 and to encourage its widest use. CLEAR hopes the latest move will bring about the conversion of all cars in this country at the rate of 15 per cent a year. Environment Minister William Waldegrave hopes that at least 50 per cent will have switched by the 1990s.

Esso has led the move into lead-free petrol and has more than half the outlets, but the majority of cars that can use it are



Petrol pollutant: lead-laden fumes

foreign. Texaco lists no Fords or BLMs, only one Triumph, the Acclaim, plus a couple of Range Rovers, Land Rovers and the new two-litre Rover 820s. The modification of other models ranges from the simplest de-tune — about half an hour's work in a garage — to the more costly valve changes which could push costs up into the hundreds of pounds.

Texaco have set up a free phone system to advise motorists on their car's suitability. Graham Dymott of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders estimates that only 9 per cent of cars currently on the road can run on unleaded petrol. "The industry is producing cars that will use it as fast as it can, but we do think there will be a need for both types for some years," he says.

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Chill or cure

The Belgian doctors' battle to save the life of Nicola Newson when she suffered severe hypothermia after the sinking of the Herald of Free Enterprise were crowned with success when it became apparent that although she had been immersed for a considerable time, and it is thought had stopped breathing, the hypothermia had so reduced the oxygen requirements of the brain that it had suffered no damage. The British Medical Journal report a similar case from Avicenne when a woman skier was so deeply buried in snow that breathing was prevented for 20 minutes. After being discovered she was given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation; she started to breathe spontaneously within two minutes, but recovered consciousness in 20 minutes, and two days later left hospital with her intellectual ability unimpaired. In this case too the brain was saved by chilling; at normal temperatures damage would occur after three minutes. In both cases the cold water or snow entering the nose and mouth

MEDICAL BRIEFING

helped to chill the brain rapidly; the effect of cold on the face causes a reflex slowing of the heart.

Smear tests

People may be concerned when the result of a cervical smear is mislaid or misdirected, but their anxieties would be better directed at the number, up to 30 per cent in most estimates, of false negative results. In these cases smears are reported as being normal by the

pathologist although important changes have already occurred in the woman's cervix. The source of error is more likely to lie with the doctor taking the smear than in the laboratory, so that any procedure which makes smear-taking easier, more accurate and which does not require such a complete sweep of the cervix, is likely to have substantial medical benefits.

Pulse magazine reports that Dr Thomas Dormandy, a pathologist, and Mr Albert Singer, a gynaecologist, have started experimental work at the Whittington Hospital on a test using liquid chromatography. An advantage of the test is that the cells can be collected from a wide area of the cervix and not necessarily from the patch where histological cell changes have occurred. In an examination of 175 women at the colposcopy clinic, false negative results were reduced to 8 per cent.

Trouble puffs

According to a report from the Medical Research Council's unit at Northwick Park Hospital, Harrow, women who smoke may have a more troublesome menopause than non-smokers. Doctors have shown a close association between the number of cigarettes smoked and the need to take hormone replacement therapy to alleviate a wide variety of menopausal symptoms. The research was based on the case histories of 402 women on HRT.

Mousse trap

Many doctors have been suspicious of mass-marketed soft fruit since distinguished colleagues were struck down by hepatitis A after a dinner of the Apothecaries Society at which strawberries were served. Investigations showed that an itinerant picker had urinated over them. The journal *Epidemiology and Infection* reports on another recent outbreak in which the origin of the infection could be traced via the raspberry mousse served in an hotel to a band of itinerant workers whose campsite which lacked adequate lavatories and washing facilities. Frozen raspberries, when unwashed, can be a very effective means of spreading hepatitis A.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

Revolutionary Breakthrough for Baldness

Doctors can now prescribe home treatment. The Mediform Clinic can now offer a new treatment which has been shown to slow the balding process and, in some cases, reverse it and promote the growth of new hair. Results could be dramatic; hair stops falling out and becomes thicker. The treatment is simple. A qualified physician prescribes a course of treatment, then you simply take it home and apply it to your scalp daily. Unfortunately not everyone with hair loss can benefit from the treatment. For this reason the Mediform Clinic is offering free Nationwide private consultations to advise if subjects are suitable for treatment.

Those who wish to know more about this remarkable breakthrough, and would like to arrange a free consultation in their locality are invited to telephone 01-629 8340 (London), 061-236 0977 (Manchester) or post the coupon for full details.

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TOMORROW
Barbara Amiel on sterilization: does knowing more mean caring less?

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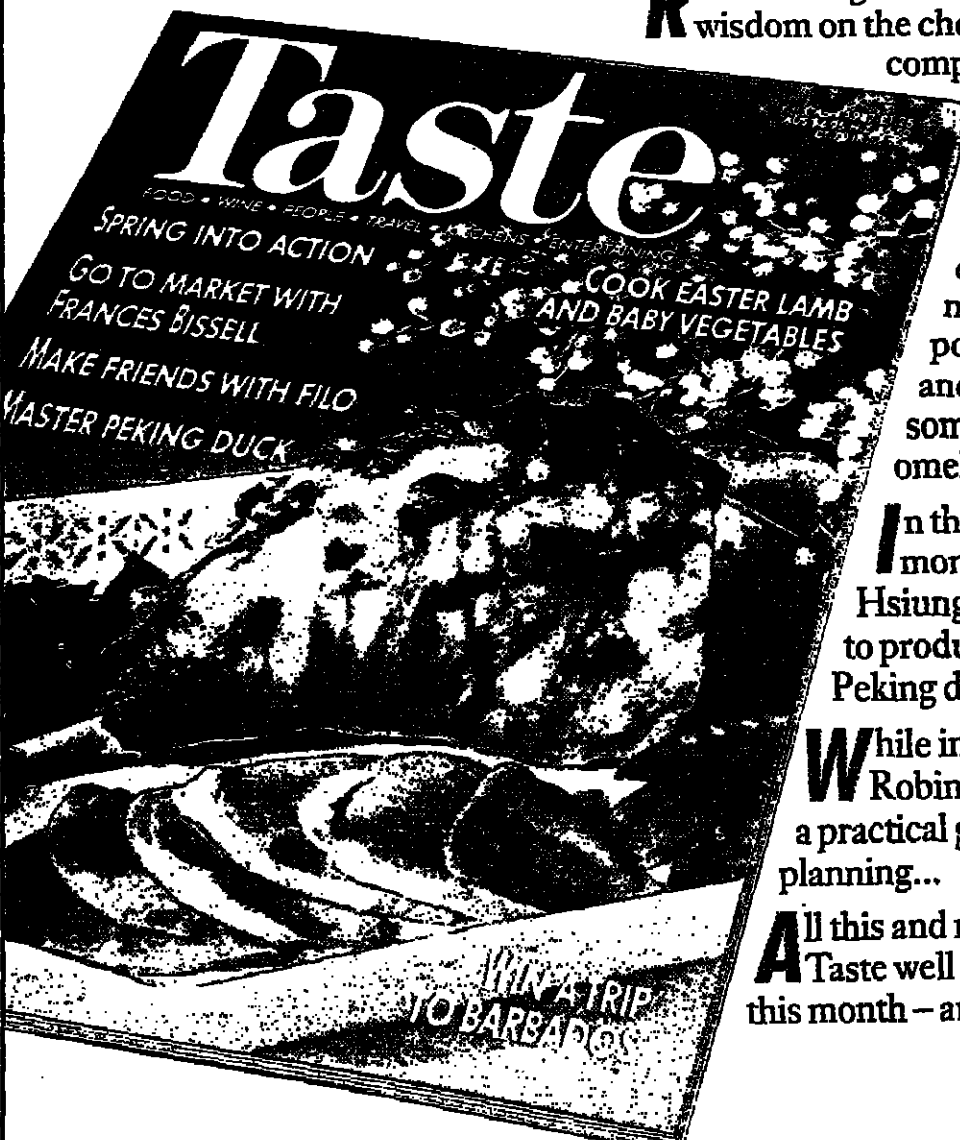
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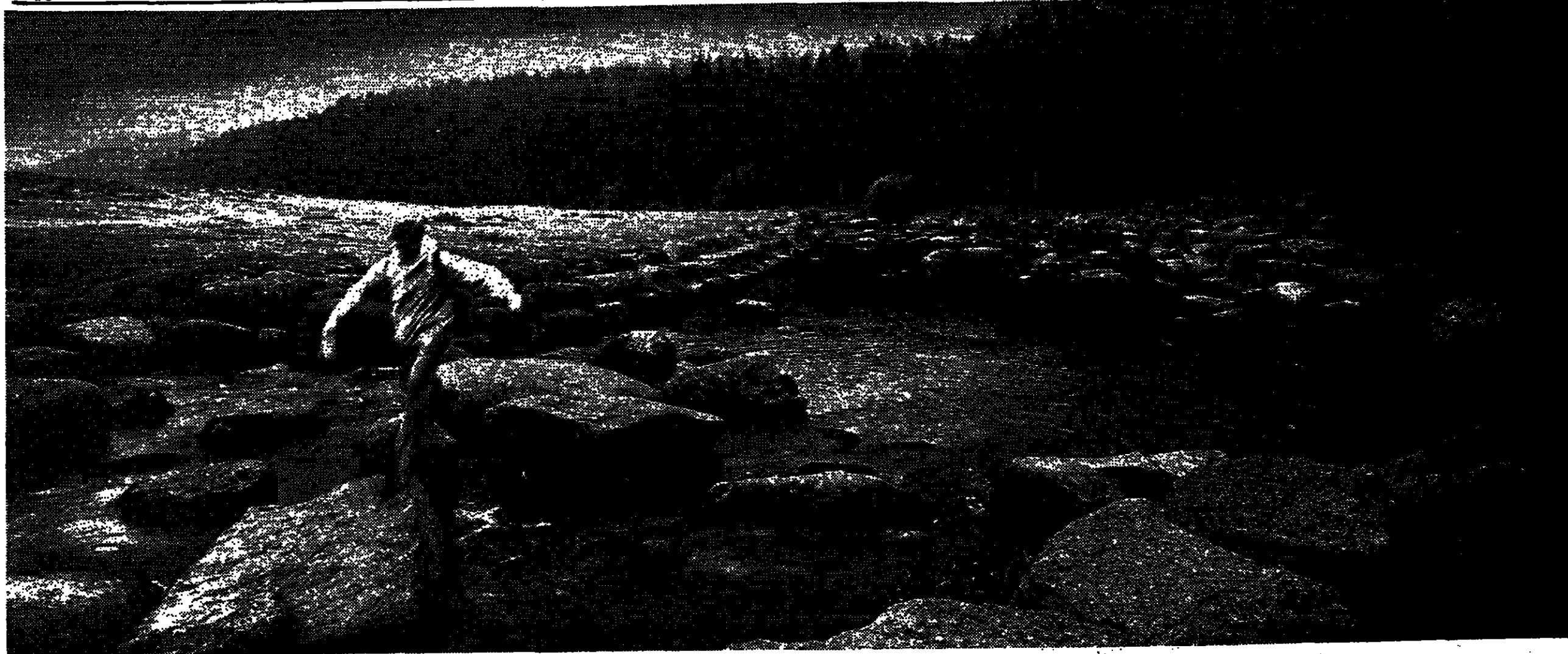
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Just another day at the office.

Your alarm buzzes for the second time. A freezing mist lies heavily over the camp. Your radiator is barely warm.

6.15 am

From the room next door a worn-out tape of Dire Straits shakes another young officer awake. On your left you can just hear Mozart's Flute and Harp decorating the morning. With close friends like this, who needs a radio?

You wash, shave, pull on a tracksuit and jog over to your platoon's block.

Outside, twenty two bleary-eyed soldiers await your arrival. What are you going to torture them with today?

They'd know if they'd bothered to look on the notice board: an eight mile run.

"Come on, you know you can do it?"

And in fact they can. It's all part of being a professional.

Panting back, strung out like washing on a line, leading from the front one minute, urging from the back the next, you pass another platoon swimming an icy river. Your men shout derisive encouragement.

7.45 am

A quick shower and you change into uniform.

You walk past portraits of distinguished Generals and spruce Brigadiers to breakfast in the mess.

Most officers are on first name terms but somehow you always seek out friends of your own age and rank. Not that it matters much, hardly anyone talks at breakfast.

You could choose muesli and yoghurt (heaven knows you've vowed to often enough) but the smell of fried bacon and mushrooms overwhelms your best intentions.

8.45 am

Time to inspect your platoon not so much for bull but well-being.

You make eye-contact with each man.

Is one still having trouble with his girlfriend? Is another's wife still fed up with married quarters? Has a third got over the flu bug?

A look can often tell you something

you should follow up in private later.

You tell one of your Corporals to take them off on anti-tank weapon training leaving you to discuss the day's programme with your senior NCO.

He's a Sergeant six years older than you whose knowledge and experience you have learned to respect greatly.

You tell him you've arranged a showing of a film about the Falklands war, what went right, what went wrong and why.

You check on one soldier whose sick leave has gone on suspiciously long, then on to preliminary planning for next Autumn's exercises in Cyprus.

10.45 am

During the coffee break you bump into an Army Air Corps Officer who's just flown in the Brigade Commander by helicopter.

He's hacked off that a unit he was due to do abseiling exercises with next week, has suddenly been re-deployed.

Your mind races. "Hang on."

You'll need an instructor and permission from your Commanding Officer, but your men will get a day's abseiling 90ft down from a hovering helicopter.

They're really knocked-out when you tell them after a radio codes lecture just before lunch.

12.30 pm

The light falls through large windows onto long, polished tables and finds reflection in illustrious regimental silver.

However often you walk into the dining room you always feel the tradition: the battle honours from wars you studied at school.

Sitting at the table are many of the colleagues who will become life-long friends. You find a place among them and chat.

"Soup or melon sir?" You serve yourself to the other two courses.

Afterwards there's just time to flick through a newspaper in an armchair built uncompromisingly for masculine comfort.

2.00 pm

You drop in on your platoon while an NCO is demonstrating the new SA80 rifle.

They are silent as he holds up its lethal, efficient lines for them to admire.

Like a car salesman he feeds them facts ... "automatic fire ... only two-thirds the

weight, smaller calibre..."

Knowing you won't be needed, you leave. The men have to learn practical map reading. This afternoon you can plan a course.

2.35 pm

Armed with stopwatch, map, compass and notepad you drive in your third-hand Alfasud to some woods in the next county.

As you run through the empty landscape, it starts to rain and you step in a pool of liquid mud. Brambles tear at your track-suit. Was this such a wonderful idea?

But in two hours you're back in the car with the heater full on, one trainer full of mud and a desperate need for a cup of tea.

Still, you've planned another day's training.

6.00 pm

Your bed has been made and your room cleaned but your dirty clothes are a matter for you and the regimental washing machine.

Exhausted but with a quiet mind you sit down to write a report on a Corporal who's asked permission to apply for a commission.

His career could depend on what you write. You're thinking deeply, pen poised, when there's a knock on the door. It's one of your brother officers looking disgustingly fresh.

"You haven't forgotten we're playing squash before supper?" he enquires. "Not tired are we?"

The Corporal's application will get better attention in the quietness of the evening.

Meanwhile, there is someone who deserves a good thrashing on court.

Please send me more information about life as an Army Officer.

Full name _____

Home address _____

Date of birth _____

Place of study _____

I have or expect to obtain ☐ O-levels (no.)

☐ A-levels (no.) ☐ degree or equivalents as applicable.

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THE TIMES DIARY

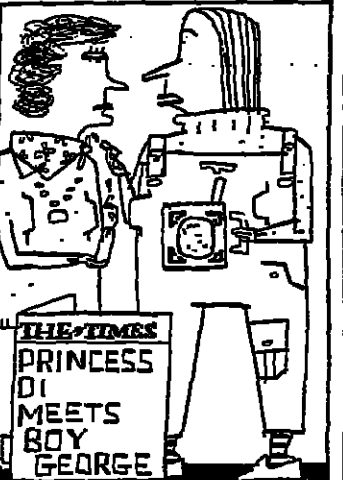
Norman's norm

Walham Forest's Labour council has fallen foul of the borough's best-known MP, Norman Tebbit. As well as allocating £2,500 for books for homosexuals, it is planning to buy *Jennie Lives* with *Eric and Martin* for its public libraries. The story of a child living with her father and his male lover was condemned last year by Kenneth Baker, the Education Secretary as "pretty blatant homosexual propaganda." Tebbit yesterday said he had heard that Labour councillors, who took control last May, were trying to infiltrate "dirty books" into children's libraries (in fact *Jennie* will appear on the main library shelves). He added: "I expect Neil Kinnock to act to ensure these councillors never stand again." The bad news for the Tory chairman is that although it had "nothing to do with choosing *Jennie*, the £2,500 was earmarked by library officers last March — under a Tory administration.

Valley to rift

The split between Jim Callaghan and Neil Kinnock over defence can scarcely be anything but a sadness for both. Callaghan's imminent autobiography, *Time and Chance*, paints a picture of 20 years of happy families in the valleys. He describes how his son, Michael, shared a flat at university in Cardiff with a fellow student by the name of Glenys Parry. "Glenys was a friendly girl," he effuses, "with a ginger-haired, freckled, cheerful, argumentative companion by name of Neil Kinnock. In the 1964 general election I recall Neil drove a loudspeaker van around the constituency extolling the virtues of the Labour Party. Twenty years later he would lead the Labour Party and I would be a back-bench supporter."

BARRY FANTONI



'Apparently he gave her the name of his dressmaker'

Going pop

Just in case Mrs Thatcher decides against an early election, the Alliance is planning a series of events to ensure it is not forgotten in the lazy, hazy summer days. The most spectacular will be a day-long open-air rally at Knebworth Park in Hertfordshire, scene of many of the great pop concerts of the past two decades. The fare on offer will include speeches by all the leading Alliance figures, lightened by so far unspecified acts of entertainment.

● Sign on the cemetery gates in Peterborough: "Do not enter, no exit at the other end."

Gift of the gab

The mother of Parliaments is still capable of doing a fledgling independent democracy a favour. Following overtures from the Caribbean islands of St Kitts-Nevis, which gained independence in 1983, the British Speaker's office is making arrangements to supply a wig for the speaker of its national assembly. As a gesture of friendship, I understand, the powdered hairpiece will be given as a gift.

Spouse trap

The chancellorship was as nothing to the catininess of Oxford don Barbara Everett and novelist A.N. Wilson. It began with Miss Everett's suggestion in the *London Review of Books* that Shakespeare's sonnets may have been addressed to his wife, Wilson, pointing to Shakespeare's references to his lover's high birth, asked: "Why — when the Hathaways were not even a notable gentry family would Shakespeare, even in jest, write in this way to his wife?" Miss Everett, accusing Wilson of "some limit of conjugal experience", snapped back: "If you don't know, I can't tell you." Nor has she been untroubled by Wilson's reply, citing a "recent scholarly work" in his defence. It is by his wife, Katherine Duncan-Jones. "It can only be proper to assume," Miss Everett observes in the latest issue, "that Wilson is as partial to Mrs Wilson as I am arguing Shakespeare was to Mrs Shakespeare."

Boys out of blue

Police officers at the Thames Valley force's Kidlington headquarters are smarting from a sartorial dressing-down from their chief constable, Colin Smith. He has banned the wearing of the dark blue sweaters, introduced by his predecessor, Peter Imbert, who is to be the next commissioner of the Met. Smith apparently considers them scruffy.

PHS

June, autumn or '88? Robin Oakley looks at the pros and cons

Election: Thatcher's options

With a generally popular Budget behind her, Mrs Thatcher will come under increasing pressure to call an early general election. There will be no immediate decision. That must wait — at the earliest — until Sunday, May 10, when the Prime Minister, her party chairman, Norman Tebbit, and a clutch of advisers meet at Chequers to pore over the detailed computer analysis of the local government elections four days earlier, together with a brace of follow-up private polls.

A similar meeting was held on the Sunday after the local elections in May 1983. Mrs Thatcher announced the election the following day, Parliament was dissolved on Friday, May 13, and the country went to the polls on June 9, 20 days later.

Conservative Central Office has long regarded the results of this year's local elections as a more dependable guide to the outcome of the general election than any opinion polls. Once she has them, Mrs Thatcher, with election fever rampant, will have to decide whether to go for June or stand the nation down for a few months at least.

What are the options? Here are the main factors that will determine her decision.

MAY

The first seriously considered date for the election is May 7. Arrangements have already been made to permit a parliamentary contest on the same day as the local elections. The Budget and Mrs Thatcher's talks with Mr Gorbachov in Moscow would be fresh in the public mind: Labour would have had little time to recover from its present disarray and the Alliance would be badly stretched by having to fight local and national election battles on the same day.

Against May 7 is Mrs Thatcher's conviction that the voting public does not regard it as "fair game" for a government to go to the country before it is into its fifth year in Parliament. She would be exposed to taunts that she was "cutting and running" and people might begin to feel there was some truth in Labour's claims of an impending economic crisis.

The Tories would also be gambling on temperature-takings by opinion pollsters instead of evidence from real votes cast in real polling booths. The Budget tax cuts would not yet have shown up in pay packets, nor would home owners have written new standing orders for lower mortgage repayments.

JUNE

Those Thatcher advisers who favour June 11 or 18 would be able

KEY POINTERS TO TORY THINKING

March 25-28: Neil Kinnock in US to see President Reagan.
March 28-April 1: Mrs Thatcher in Moscow for talks with Mr Gorbachov.
March 31: Department of Employment completes interviewing long-term unemployed under Re-start programme.
April 8: Last date, passes for calling an election on May 7.
July 16: Local elections at district level in England and Wales (excluding London). Seats least contested in 1983.
May 10: Mrs Thatcher and top advisers expected to meet at Chequers to analyse local election results and follow-up polls.
Mid-May: Bill abolishing domestic rates in Scotland expected to become law.
May 14: April unemployment figures.
May 17: Pay packets start to reflect Budget tax cuts.
June 8, 9, 10: Mrs Thatcher on world stage at the Venice summit of the seven leading industrialized countries.
May 14: April unemployment figures.
May 17: Pay packets start to reflect Budget tax cuts.
June 8, 9, 10: Mrs Thatcher on world stage at the Venice summit of the seven leading industrialized countries.
June 8: Fourth anniversary of 1983

Tory election victory. Mrs Thatcher thinks the public wants a government calling an election before the fifth and final year.
June 18: May unemployment figures.
June 25: May trade figures.
July 16: June unemployment figures.
July 24: June trade figures.
July 31: Commons session due to end. Criminal Justice Bill would need until then for completion.
August 13: July unemployment figures.
August 25: July trade figures.
September 1-4 (unusually early): SDP conference in Portsmouth.
September 7-11: TUC, Blackpool.
September 13-18: Liberal assembly, Harrogate.
September 17: August unemployment figures.
September 24: August trade figures.
September 28-October 2: Labour conference, Brighton.
October 5-8: Tory conference, Blackpool.
October 15: September unemployment figures, taking account of summer school leavers.

to argue that lower mortgages would be a fact by then and post-wedget pay packets would be fatter. Though there would still be charges of "cutting and running", the government would at least be into its final year. And Mrs Thatcher would be able to argue convincingly that election fever was hampering the process of government.

If, as expected, the Alliance had picked up seats in the local elections, Central Office might urge Mrs Thatcher to go to the country before Labour's crumbling further and the Alliance took off. If she did, she could conveniently burnish her world statesman's image by taking three days off from the campaign, as she did when she flew to Williamsburg in 1983, to attend the economic summit of the seven most industrialized nations in Venice on June 8, 9 and 10.

June is the current favourite among ministers. One or two might grumble that the 18th would interfere with Royal Ascot, but it could well be the choice if the Tories stuck to their original plan of a long campaign in the hope that Neil Kinnock's voice, and nerve, might crack. The Prime Minister would be less likely to opt for June 25; the May trade figures are out that day, and a bad set would back Labour's claims of an impending balance of payments crisis.

The argument against a June

date would be the expected Alliance gains in the local elections. Better, Tebbit and Co might say, to let the Alliance be forgotten during the summer lull. And there we have the essential issue. When the Central Office computers whirr with the analysis of the local election votes, Tebbit and his team will be looking for three things:

● A clear Conservative lead which would, if necessary, stand some erosion during the election campaign.
● Confirmation that Labour's lead had crumbled.
● Indications that the Alliance threat could be contained.

The Conservatives think they have Kinnock beaten already, but they fear that the Alliance might get a bandwagon rolling. Support for the Liberals in 1979 and the Alliance in 1983 rose by one third during the campaign.

The Tories will want a minimum lead of seven points over Labour and an Alliance vote in the local elections no higher than around 25 per cent. The closer the Alliance vote is to 30 per cent the more the Tories would be inclined to wait.

SEPTEMBER

Because no party wants an election in the main holiday months of July and August — though, with proxy and postal votes, there is no longer a valid reason against one — the next serious candidate is late September. The arguments in

favour include the fact that the government's popularity tends to rise during the holiday period when not much happens to arouse political passions. There will have been longer for the previous autumn's public measures and training programmes to work through and increased employment and it becomes that much harder for the opposition parties to argue that the government is running away from trouble.

The Criminal Justice Bill, the centrepiece of this year's parliamentary programme, would have had the chance to become law, which would be lost in a June election.

According to Treasury forecasts, consumer spending will be rising faster in the second half of the year, unemployment will continue to fall and inflation will again be heading down after an upward blip in the summer.

Against September, from the government view, is the thought that Lawson's Budget largesse would have been forgotten, or at least be taken for granted, and Labour might have made good use of the summer to get its act together.

One other snag. The SDP, avowedly, has arranged its conference much earlier than usual this year, starting on September 1. It could be turned into an Alliance election jamboree that would have a major impact.

OCTOBER

The arguments for and against an October election — and few prime ministers have ever risked sending their canvassers out on the doorsteps any later in the year — are largely the same as those for late September, but by then the Budget and Mrs Thatcher's Moscow trip will be even more distant memories.

SPRING 1988

Mrs Thatcher can, of course, wait until June 1988. That would look more seemly for a government which has always emphasized its long-term objectives. Unemployment measures would have had still longer to work through. Lawson would have the chance of another Budget, and has already pencilled in the £3 billion of fiscal adjustment which would allow him to bring the standard rate of income tax down to the psychological breakthrough point of 25p in the pound. But prime ministers hate to get boxed in with no other option if a Westland-style crisis crops up at the wrong time. And with election speculation already rampant it is doubtful if the country could bear the strain of waiting until then.

West to achieve constraints on Soviet short-range missiles, given that the Soviets have so many other nuclear weapons threatening Europe, which are currently not being constrained in any parallel agreement? Far more important is the prospect that there will be no limits on those nuclear weapons of longer range than INF (which all threaten quite effectively the existing INF target), both because of the deadlock over SDI and actions by both the US and the Soviet Union undercutting the Salt 2 treaty.

What should the West do now? The outstanding issues in the negotiations for an INF agreement — primarily verification — should be addressed on their merits. In any agreement, both sides should undertake a general commitment not to circumvent it through other nuclear weapons systems in Europe. Only the possibility of follow-on negotiations on nuclear weapons in Europe should be accepted.

Priority should be given in arms control negotiations to gaining constraints on strategic offensive forces, thereby seeking to avoid codifying a separate nuclear balance in Europe. Hence the deadlock on Star Wars must be broken. US objectives in Star should also be refined in light of the agreement to eliminate INF in Europe, ensuring that ballistic missiles will continue to play a role in extending deterrence.

Furthermore, attention should now be given to determining the West's objectives in conventional forces, as a prelude to designing proposals for future negotiations on nuclear forces in Europe. In this discussion, the West needs to decide what kinds of short-range nuclear systems are essential to maintaining a credible flexible response strategy in the absence of a balance of conventional forces. In other words, negotiations on short-range nuclear forces should follow, not precede, steps in reducing the disparities in conventional forces.

It is not too late to take these steps, for Victor Karpov, the chief of the Soviet arms control directorate, has just announced that the Soviets wish to keep the negotiations on short-range missiles separate from an INF agreement. Essentially, NATO needs now to finesse negotiations and limits on short-range nuclear forces in Europe and have the courage to explain to the public that, as long as NATO relies on nuclear weapons for its deterrent strategy, it will give priority in arms control negotiations in the aftermath of an INF agreement to strategic offensive forces and conventional forces.

Otherwise the West risks starting down a very slippery slope in future arms control negotiations, which can only serve Soviet objectives, not NATO strategy.

The author is director of studies at the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Ronald Butt

Kinnock's great Budget fumble

Neil Kinnock's limitation as a political leader was vividly exposed in his reply to the Budget, immediately the Chancellor had sat down. The traditional obligation on every Opposition leader to respond at some length to a Budget speech, of which he has no prior information, is of course a hard task. But it can be done well if two criteria are met.

First the reaction should be an honest one, within the terms of the opposition party's economic policy, and should relate to what has just been heard. Second, the leader of the Opposition should be able to make a judgement for himself and not simply regurgitate the ideas dreamed up by advisers on what they expected he would be hearing.

Neither condition was fulfilled by Mr Kinnock. As he had seen things, the Chancellor would have £3 billion to give away without increasing the indicated total of £7 billion for public sector borrowing in 1987-88 (which was also the planned total for the current year, though it will now actually be about £4 billion). With an election looming, what could Nigel Lawson be expected to do, as Labour saw it, except give all that £5 billion in voter-bribing tax cuts? So Kinnock no doubt inspired his researchers to find other instances of Tory chancellors giving massive tax cuts before an election and having to withdraw these afterwards.

They came up with Rab Butler's 9d off income tax in 1955. It gave Kinnock his line, which he duly trotted out with appropriate references to his parents' pre-fab and Butler's remarks about port and pheasants. He described it as a "bribe Budget" and afterwards Roy Hattersley agreed, adding that if the Tories were re-elected they would have to take it all back again.

In the event, however, the Budget assigned only £2.5 billion for tax cuts, the rest going to reduce the public borrowing target to £4 billion. But because he cannot think quickly on his feet, doesn't understand economics and makes the mistake of assuming that the Tories will conform to his own stereotype, Kinnock persisted with his scriptwriters' line. Only later did a refinement begin to emerge from a baffled Roy Hattersley, whose own instant reaction on television was that here was a chancellor who "astonishingly" had £7 billion to sling around but who nevertheless had not (as we can be sure Mr Hattersley himself would have) "Why? Because, according to Mr Hattersley, the government has to cut and run since there is a balance of payments crisis looming."

Now it is not easy to belittle a 4 per cent inflation rate, rising economic growth and productivity, an increase of £4.75 billion in public spending last autumn, and £2.5 billion tax cuts, when all this

still leaves room to reduce public borrowing by £3 billion. But it belittling is necessary there must be better ways of doing it than asserting that the Chancellor will have to claw back his modest tax cuts; after all, it is part of Labour's thesis that public sector borrowing could be well above £7 billion, let alone £4 billion, without causing inflation.

There is, of course, some electioneering in the Budget. Lawson has targeted his tax cuts where he thinks they will do the government the most electoral good, principally towards people with middle incomes and somewhat below. For myself, I should have preferred to see the money concentrated on raising the initial threshold into tax, to increase the gap between the benefit from earned income and from social security. On the other hand, this is the most expensive form of tax cutting, and its effect is spread thinly. Besides, people do not understand 2p off income tax. It is also a consideration that the rise in the tax threshold will not benefit the highest earners.

It would be a more-than-human chancellor who gave nothing to those sections of the working population whose votes he needs, in order to give something to those whose votes he is unlikely to get. Appealing to your own constituency (as Labour also does) is honest electioneering. Doing so by tax cuts which damage the economy would be dishonest electioneering. It would also be politically foolish. The government's principal asset is its reputation for economic probity. In the past it has risked votes when necessary to keep the economy on course and has been rewarded. It would be mad to throw that reputation away now, and it tells us something about the judgement of the Labour leaders that they cannot see this and adjust to it.

Because of a short-term move into current account deficit after years of surplus, they miscalculate a balance of payments crisis. They do not know whether to accuse Lawson of giving too much or too little. Most inappropriately, they attacked the Budget for doing nothing about jobs when, quite apart from such concessions as that on profit-related pay, it makes possible lower interest rates that are the first essential to continued growth and employment. The £3 billion not spent on tax cutting or public services is the price of cheaper borrowing. What would the rate of interest be under Labour economic management and what would be its consequence for jobs?

Labour has a problem. It assumes, following a famous speech, that what it says often enough will be believed. The trouble is that it repeats its own propaganda so unthinkingly that it begins to believe it itself.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Miss Prudence is their darling

Mr Lawson, in his Budget speech on Tuesday, had said he would try to keep the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement at one per cent of the Gross National Product. "This will maintain a degree of fiscal prudence that, until this year, had been achieved on only two occasions since the 1950s," he added.

It was another welcome sign that the feature editors of the big Treasury documents now regard Miss Fiscal Prudence as the most popular girl with their readers. For the red-blooded foreign exchange dealers and merchant bankers who read them, Prudence is the Samantha Fox of those papers ("Who needs demand management when Pru's around, fellas?")

According to the gossip columns, Pru is always quarrelling with the live-in companion with whom she has shared the Treasury for years — spendthrift, upper-class ex-soldier, Major Refutation. But the Major's problem was that somewhere in his past he had had a relationship — or at least was associated — with ballet-loving Bloomsbury group, Maynard Keynes. This made Keynes' remaining friends in the Treasury vulnerable to attack in the tabloids ("Treasury linked with Gay economist").

In the end, the Major had to go. By Tuesday's budget speech, Prudence was living alone in the massive Treasury building off London's Whitehall. Friends said she was "very happy".

But yesterday, Mr Roy Hattersley, the chief Opposition spokesman on economics, made a scurrilous suggestion that all was not as it seemed in Pru's private life. Opening the resumed debate on the budget, Mr Hattersley claimed that, in their speeches around the country, Conservative backbenchers had been told to use the word "prudent" to describe the budget. Whereupon, he insisted: "It has not been a prudent budget. It is not prudent to spend £20 billion on holding unemployment at more than 3.5 million. Nor is it prudent to sacrifice the £30 billion the country would earn if those people were back at work. It is not prudent either to allow the quality of housing, hospitals, schools and roads to decay to the point of disintegration."

"It is not prudent to squander the country's revenues. Manufac-

turing output and investment have collapsed. It is not prudent to escalate the deficit on the balance of manufacturing trade. It is not prudent not to secure the homes of the old and weak against the disastrous rise in burglary and robbery."

He seemed to be suggesting that the girl who turned up in the budget was an impostor. She was not the real Pru at all. It will be up to Mr Hattersley to prove this astonishing charge. But, in a way, it was a tribute to Fiscal Prudence's popularity with the public that the Opposition felt it necessary to deny that she had ever been near Mr Lawson.

In the past, the Labour Party had always tried to convince people that it had a relationship with Pru's rival, the Treasury Model. She promises full employment, welfare, no tax increases to any politician who feeds her. She's anybody's.

Replying to Mr Hattersley, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr John McGregor, protested: "He tried to claim it (the budget) was not prudent." The Chief Secretary said it in such a way as to suggest that a Government's reputation, to a Government's reputation. But he seemed to draw comfort from the country's presumed scepticism towards everything Mr Hattersley says. "No one will believe it," said Mr McGregor.

He insisted that the Government's policy was to "maintain prudence". The girl would perhaps have wished he had not suggested she was being maintained by anyone. ("I'm no kept woman," says Pru.) But Tory backbenchers seemed pleased at Mr McGregor's assurance. So would anyone worried about future inflation.

The Tory backbench finance expert, Sir Peter Horden, became the first member to accuse Mr Jenkins of putting on airs since being elected Chancellor of Oxford. He said he did not have to give way just because Mr Jenkins was Chancellor of Oxford — the first of many such dreary puns.

Mr Jenkins himself plunged us all back into doubt by saying that the budget's tone was "more of complacency rather than of prudence". But among Tories Pru can now only be supplanted in their affections by fun-loving, seductive Miss June Poll.

The long, short (and medium) of arms control



Another ingredient the West must take into account: an artist's impression of a Soviet submarine-launched cruise missile

The United States has been modernizing its nuclear forces over the past 10 years — primarily its strategic Triad, but also its sea-based cruise missiles, its theatre aircraft, and its nuclear artillery. NATO's strategy of flexible response does not require matching the Warsaw Pact in numbers of particular kinds of nuclear weapons. The agreed objective is to deter by putting at risk what the Soviets value, and to make the stakes unacceptably high if deterrence fails. Taking into account Soviet and American nuclear forces, NATO will be able to accomplish this even without INF. Whether the American nuclear capability will remain credible as a deterrent in the view of both Soviet and European leaders is a separate matter.

No NATO government is prepared to accept Gorbachov's goal of eliminating nuclear weapons in Europe. NATO has no choice but to rely on nuclear weapons, given its disadvantages in conventional forces. So the issue is whether it makes strategic sense to proceed, as NATO is currently doing, to expand the negotiations in Europe downward from INF in terms of the range of nuclear weapons, towards Gorbachov's objectives of eliminating nuclear weapons in Europe.

An answer to this question depends in the first instance on whether NATO believes it needs to deploy its own short-range nuclear missiles as the intermediate ones

are eliminated. The US Army Chief of Staff answers yes, and has called for the replacement of the Pershing 2 with a single-stage version having a range of about 450 miles. Reports have also appeared that the US army would like to develop a nuclear warhead for its new shorter range attack missile. West Germany currently has 77 Pershing 1A missiles, and has been considering whether to modernize these. No consensus exists within NATO as to whether it needs new short-range nuclear missiles.

Prudence would suggest that before agreeing to arms control measures, NATO ought to decide what kinds of nuclear systems in Europe it needs after the elimination of medium-range missiles, and how its requirements would be affected if Soviet short-range missiles were reduced.

As NATO still relies on some nuclear weapons, the obvious problem is that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to halt the arms control negotiating process after short-range missiles. It is not clear what incentive the Soviets would have in accepting its own reductions in these systems without a commitment by the West to negotiations on all nuclear weapons in Europe — a step toward the longer-term Soviet goal. Public pressures can be expected to build to that same end.

But even putting aside these considerable risks, it is really all that important militarily to the

Lynn Davis spells out hidden dangers in the Euro-missile proposals

Short-range missiles are now a deciding factor in whether there will be an East-West agreement on intermediate nuclear forces (INF) in Europe. The West is seeking constraints on Soviet SS-21, SS-12/22 and SS-23 short-range missiles, for what appear to be good political and strategic reasons. But are they?

These missiles, with ranges between 60 to 600 miles, can threaten many of the same targets in Western Europe as the SS-20, which is being eliminated. The missiles are mobile and so, even if withdrawn from East Germany and Czechoslovakia, could be returned quickly and secretly. NATO has only a few short-range missiles (Pershing 1A and Lance), and because of geography they cannot threaten comparable targets in the Soviet Union.

Given Mikhail Gorbachov's interest in an INF agreement, the West may have an opportunity to reduce the Soviet numerical advantage in short-range missiles. NATO appreciated in 1979 the difficulty in singling out particular categories of nuclear forces for negotiation but decided to do so in the expectation that any INF agreement would be linked closely to the follow-on Salt negotiations. Europeans were particularly anxious not to create the impression of a separate Euro-strategic balance, and many preferred to negotiate combined limits on strategic and intermediate nuclear forces.

In his January 1986 proposals, Gorbachov began exploiting the problems and contradictions in the NATO arms control position. In proposing the elimination of INF in Europe, he did not link an agreement with progress in Start or on the American Strategic Defence Initiative (Star Wars), thus encouraging the codification of a distinct and separate INF balance. He did, however, link the ban on INF with his overall objective of eliminating nuclear weapons in Europe, holding out as bait follow-on negotiations on shorter range systems.

For a variety of political reasons, the West acceded to most of what Gorbachov proposed. But on reflection, is this how we should proceed? Would it not be better to postpone any constraints on short-range nuclear forces until Soviet-American differences have been resolved over the future of strategic offensive and defensive forces, and steps have been taken to reduce the Warsaw Pact's advantages in conventional forces?

Without their 800-plus SS-20 warheads in the western USSR, the Soviets retain a formidable nuclear threat against Western Europe in their strategic nuclear forces, with intercontinental ballistic missiles of variable range, medium-range aircraft, and short-range missile systems, both cruise and ballistic. The approximately 700 SS-21, SS-12/22, and SS-23 are part of this threat, but certainly not the most important or most destructive.



ALL CHANGE ON DEFENCE

For Mr Kinnock to tell the White House that it can keep its cruise missiles in Britain, when the Americans are trying to get rid of them, would seem to be politically maladroit. At best it seems as if the Labour Party is trying to climb on the back of a passing bandwagon, before it finds itself completely overtaken. At worst it sounds like desperation. No wonder he made known his change of heart when everyone else was thinking about the Budget.

Having said that, one must still welcome the volte-face. Mr Kinnock, aided and abetted by Mr Denis Healey, has already been at pains to make his party's defence policy look less bizarre. The recent clash of heads with Mr Callaghan underlined the deep division in Labour ranks. If he can reassure Washington that his party will not undermine the present arms control initiative, he might still make its unilateral stance appear more acceptable.

He may yet have to move a little further, though, given the other straws now flying in the wind. The most significant of these was tossed up by Sir Geoffrey Howe in Brussels earlier this week, in a speech which might also have been given more prominence had minds not been focused more on Westminster.

While stressing the continuing importance of Nato as the ultimate guarantor of European security, he proposed a European defence strategy, based on Europe's own conventional forces and the British and French nuclear deterrents and constructed round the Western European Union (WEU). This is the

post-war European defence alliance which has always been overshadowed by Nato.

The idea is not completely new. Defence strategists and politicians on both sides of the Atlantic have been talking for more than a decade about strengthening the European "pillar" within Nato. But it has never advanced very far, partly because no-one has quite decided where to start and partly because there has been a fear of undermining Nato.

European governments are at last having to face up to a changing world in which their interests and those of the United States are not always going to merge in perfect harmony. Washington is looking increasingly towards the Pacific, to its concerns in Central America and to Asia.

Not only that, but the superpowers seem to be moving towards an agreement which would remove all intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) from Eastern and Western Europe. The US cruise and Pershing-2 missiles were installed partly to counter the Russian SS-20s — but partly also to strengthen the nuclear coupling between the Old World and the New.

The new missiles would provide a visible reassurance of the US nuclear guarantee for Europe. If that coupling is now removed, it does not mean the nuclear guarantee goes too — but psychologically it makes Europe feel more vulnerable. Divided over trade, by differing perceptions of each other's national interests and by lingering Congressional suspicion that the Europeans are

not pulling their weight in Nato, the two halves of the alliance are being forced to think about changing conditions.

One difficulty about strengthening the European pillar has always been the attitude of the French. But the enthusiasm in Paris for the WEU has recently been matched by increased interest in nuclear co-operation with Britain. The French have also shown themselves ready to accept that their deterrent would hold a nuclear umbrella over West Germany as well.

The possibility of a European deterrent, involving two decision-making centres in London and Paris — complementing rather than substituting for the American nuclear guarantee, is starting to look less preposterous than it did. It would certainly extend the role of Trident — which is why the Labour Party might need to think again.

A European defence strategy might thus see Nato becoming gradually more federal — an alliance between two halves. The WEU, if it were to provide the means, would need to be strengthened and extended — to absorb more than the existing seven nations (Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and the three Benelux countries).

Given the continuing fear of driving away the Americans and their 330,000 troops in Europe, no-one is going to press for sudden change. The process is likely to be evolutionary. But change of some kind is happening all round us and Europe has to be prepared now to adjust to it.

THE CHANCELLOR'S OMISSION

The Chancellor's fiscal caution earned a swift reward in financial markets yesterday with the second half point cut in short-term interest rates in nine days. More could eventually follow. But Mr Lawson's Budget indulged in one piece of wholly unwelcome caution, which had nothing to do with spending or borrowing and everything to do with making the income tax system fairer. There was no mention in his speech of the Government's long-delayed proposals to reform the taxation of married couples.

The reason for this omission, the Chancellor claimed yesterday, is that the Government has yet to make up its mind. This hardly suggests that reform stands high on the Chancellor's list of priorities. It should.

There is general agreement that the present hybrid system of joint and separate taxation is too complex, discriminates against marriage and still treats women as economic second-class citizens. That became clear in responses to the Green Paper issued by Sir Geoffrey Howe back in 1980.

Two years ago, Mr Lawson promised to pursue reform and issue another Green Paper. This finally appeared with last year's Budget. Admittedly, the interminable process of computerizing Inland Revenue operations remains a barrier to reform. But, after such long consultation, there seems no reason to delay a policy decision any longer.

The 1986 Green Paper recommended abolishing the married man's allowance in favour of separate allowances for husband and wife, which either could choose to transfer to the other. Consultation has shown widely drawn majority support for that proposal. It raises the tax status of women and removes one incentive for couples to live in sin, by allowing separate taxation of investment income. For married couples who both want outside employment, it cushions the fall in income when one loses a job or when a wife gives up work to bear children.

Transferable allowances would also remove the present tax penalty against families where one partner chooses to look after the family rather than be in paid employment. By raising total allowances for one-earner families, it would help those currently caught in the poverty trap when extra income incurs both taxation and loss of benefits. Against these many virtues, it would give a questionable tax benefit to the small minority of childless couples with only one earner.

Opposition to the proposals is nonetheless fierce. Ironically, it comes chiefly from those feminists who argue that transferable allowances would reduce the incentive for married women to seek work, or return to work after child-rearing. The husband could use both allowances anyway, so a wife re-entering the labour market would have no extra allowance on the income she earned.

Given the need for reform, it is up to those who want to maintain the artificial incentive for married women to enter the labour market to produce acceptable alternative proposals. They have failed to do so.

Their preferred system of mandatory separate taxation with single non-transferable allowances would severely hurt low-income families with only one earner, or where one partner lost a job, thus snaring more families in the poverty trap. A costly increase in child benefits, paid to all families regardless of income, would be needed to overcome this inherent flaw.

It is hard to believe that the Government would contemplate a tax reform in the cause of fairness that would require an open-ended and indiscriminate rise in public spending. It should therefore take courage and pursue the Green Paper proposal.

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Doubts about the ferry disaster

From Professor R. E. D. Bishop, FEng, FRSE, and Professor W. G. Price, FEng

Sir, Although there has been much speculation about the cause of the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster, serious doubts remain. One can agree that sufficient water over the vehicle deck would cause a capsize due to hydrostatic instability. This would require that a large mass of water had already entered the hull and leaves open the question of how it got there.

Surely the fine form of a fast ship is unlikely to throw up a bow wave sufficiently large to enter the vehicle deck when the ship is at 15 knots. No persuasive explanation of the ship loss has yet appeared in the Press so far as we know. May we, therefore, offer a suggestion?

If a dart is thrown tail first, it displays a directional instability which is of aerodynamic origin. The dart refuses to fly tail first. Directional instability can also occur with a ship, when it is of hydrodynamic origin. When it does, the vessel cannot be controlled by its rudder and "broaches to", veering to port or starboard.

For a given ship, the tendency to broach is promoted by high speed, a bow down attitude (particularly in shallow water) and the possession of a bow rudder. In such conditions a ship that increases speed will gradually become less easy to control and more directionally unstable. Broaching is not necessarily associated with

heavy seas and, if it occurs, is usually violent.

The yawing motion associated with broaching is accompanied by a sharp roll, the direction of which is likely to be "outwards". Instead of either skimming the top off a bow wave or (more probably) remaining clear of the water, the bow aperture would be driven into the sea on one side by the roll. Water would then enter and, being in the forward end of the hull, would further depress the bow and so aggravate the broaching. Eventually, no doubt, the vessel capsize because of athwartships movement of water and vehicles within her.

We do not suggest that this is anything more than a guess, since all sorts of questions need answers. The idea also needs checking mathematically and, possibly, by model testing. If it were found to be substantially correct, the inferences as regards the appropriate design would clearly be profound.

Moreover, while no one would condone going to sea with bow doors open, the relative importance of installing internal bulkheads in ro-ro (roll-on, roll-off) ships and of allowing such vessels to go to sea bow down would presumably be a matter for debate.

Yours faithfully,
R. E. D. BISHOP
(Vice-Chancellor),
W. GERAINT PRICE,
Brunel University,
Uxbridge, Middlesex.

'Polarisation' rules

From Lord Bruce-Gardyne

Sir, As a participant in the recent House of Lords debate regarding the so-called "polarisation" of financial advice and the way in which the Securities and Investments Board is proposing to interpret the Financial Services Act in this respect, I read the letter from Mr John Butterfill, MP, (March 4) with interest.

None of us, I think, who participated in that debate, from whatever viewpoint, would disagree with Mr Butterfill's assertion that "consumer protection is far more important than a secondary profit source for the clearing banks". The question is whether the SIB's proposed interpretation of the Act would add to consumer protection or to consumer bewilderment.

Of course, the customer should know the salesman's interest at the point of sale. But what the SIB has proposed is that a bank or building society manager should be debarred from fulfilling his statutory obligation to recommend to the

customer the product in his judgement best suited to the customer's need, when that product does not happen to be a "company" product.

Instead, he should be required to refer customers to an "independent intermediary", who would be under no obligation to disclose the differential between the commission he would stand to receive in respect of the recommended product and the commission he would stand to receive from the sale of an alternative product.

It really is not obvious that the consumer would be thereby better protected. Indeed the evidence produced in the recent report from the Office of Fair Trading on the selling of life assurance policies, in which the vast majority of complaints concerned the activities of salesmen, suggests the opposite.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE-GARDYNE, Director,
TSB Group plc,
PO Box 33,
25 Milk Street, EC2,
March 10.

Benefit of doubt

From Mr Peter Ustinov

Sir, A well-wisher brought Mr Bernard Levin's article "On giving Mr Gorbachev a little more red" (March 9) on Gorbachev's Russia to my attention, and I am grateful to him. Mr Levin writes with such extraordinary insight and authority on subjects as challenging as intelligence and stupidity that it is hardly surprising that he sometimes confuses the two.

After all, the cardinals who doggedly maintained that the earth was flat must have been extremely intelligent in other ways, while Christopher Columbus might well have been deemed stupid at the time for taking the risks he did.

Mr Levin is one of nature's pontificators, and owes his great erudition to books and reports rather than risk the rigours of personal experience. In that sense, he is one of the cardinals' men. It is a pity.

Test-tube ruling

From the Bishop of Birmingham

Sir, When the Church of England recently decided to prepare legislation concerning women priests, Cardinal Hume issued a statement expressing regret because this would set back the cause of Christian unity.

Sadly, the same has to be said about the new "authoritative" Vatican statement on human embryology and fertility (report, March 11), which includes condemnation of artificial insemination (husband).

It is strange that the statement contains no mention of the increasingly popular gamete inter-fallopian transfer, a technique which inserts male and female gametes into a wife's fallopian tube, where conception takes place. However, on the principles laid down in the Vatican statement, this too seems to fall under condemnation.

It is not always realised that sharply defined ethical differences between churches can be as much a barrier to Christian unity as dogmatic differences.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH BIRMINGHAM
(Chairman, Church of England Board for Social Responsibility),
Bishop's Croft,
Old Church Road,
Harborne,
Birmingham,
March 12.

Liver cancer risk

From Dr R. H. Taylor

Sir, Your item (March 5) on cancer in the vicinity of nuclear power stations leaves a number of things unsaid which cast a rather different light on the findings of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys report on regards Central Electricity Generating Board sites.

Media attention and public anxiety have focused chiefly on patterns of leukaemia around nuclear sites, especially leukaemia in young people. In this respect, the report concluded

Careful scrutiny shows no indication of an abnormal pattern of leukaemia in the locations where CEB nuclear installations are in operation.

Secondly, although positive findings for liver cancer were reported around certain CEB sites in the 25-74 age group, the researchers suggested

this may be indicative of some form of behaviour in the rural localities adjacent to these installations. This may warrant further field studies... initially checking the validity of the results and then exploring some of the factors known to be associated with increased risk of liver cancer

Science research in jeopardy

From Professor Martin Bobrow and others

Sir, We write as scientists who sit on grants committees at the Medical Research Council. One of our main tasks is to assess and award funding for scientific research, particularly in the universities, in relation to the biology of cells and their disorders.

Over the past few years, our task has become increasingly difficult as the budget within which we operate has become more and more constraining. We expect to distinguish between poor, good, and outstanding science, and to turn down applications of colleagues and friends. However, we now find that even after we have heavily pruned applications to the very minimum that would allow the work to be done, there is just not enough money to fund excellent science.

We are being forced to make judgements at such high levels of excellence that discrimination between who to fund and who not to fund becomes virtually impossible.

This difficult situation has now been made even worse since the Government has not yet given the research councils, unlike the universities, supplementation for the very welcome increase in salaries. We do not see how we can continue to make sensible decisions.

We also find it painful to tell applicants that their work is of the very highest standard but that they must wait four or five months before they will know if the grant will be funded, for we know what disorganization and demoralization this causes. We begin to believe that it may be impossible to continue to assist in the running of a system involving such damaging financial restrictions.

Yours etc,
MARTIN BOBROW (United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals),
D. G. HARNDEN (Director, Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester),
J. C. METCALFE (Department of Biochemistry, Cambridge),
G. K. RADDA (Department of Biochemistry, Oxford),
KENNETH MURRAY (Department of Molecular Biology, Edinburgh),
ELIZABETH SIMPSON (Medical Research Council, Clinical Research Centre, Harrow, Middlesex),
R. N. T. WELLS (Bristol General Hospital),
LEWIS WOLPERT, Department of Anatomy and Biology as Applied to Medicine, Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Cleveland Street, W1, March 13.

Nuclear testing
From the Principal of the United World College of the Atlantic
Sir, I, too, was in the Foreign Office Disarmament Department at the same time as Michael Cullis (March 6); but I am afraid I miss the point about a comprehensive test ban treaty.

It may be true, as he says, that a comprehensive test ban is irrelevant to arms control between the superpowers. But it is certainly not so in relation to the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The weakness of the Non-Proliferation Treaty has always been that it restrains the non-nuclear weapon States which are parties to it from producing and testing nuclear weapons, but not those countries that already have them. This weakens its balance and its political and moral effect and provides an excuse for a number of key States to refuse to sign. A comprehensive test ban would affect all parties equally and would remove that excuse.

In the real world the stalemate between the nuclear weapon States is dangerous but not disastrous. But if nuclear proliferation accelerated out of control the chances of survival would become almost nil.

A comprehensive test ban treaty which restrained proliferation could be the most effective arms-control measure of all.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW STUART, Principal,
United World College of the Atlantic,
St Donat's Castle,
Llantwit Major, South Glamorgan.

Traffic flow
From Mrs Lynn Mallet
Sir, Apropos traffic flow in London (report, March 2, letter, March 9) it seems to have escaped the notice of your correspondents that a large proportion of the traffic clogging up the roads is seeking not somewhere to go, but somewhere to stay.

As it is too late to require builders of new blocks (as should have been done immediately post-war) to provide basement and ground-floor parking facilities in all their structures, it seems, alas, that it will for ever be far, far better to travel hopefully than to arrive.

Yours peripatetically,
LYNN MALLET,
25 St Mary's Grove, W4.

From Miss Rebecca James
Sir, Perhaps Mr Ayles will be encouraged to hear that my mother despaired of Ernie too, but her premium bond did win £100 in the end — a couple of months after she died.

Yours faithfully,
REBECCA JAMES,
7 Denewood, The Grove,
Epsom, Surrey,
March 16.

In perpetuity?
From Mr Jeremy Humphries
Sir, Mr Ayles (March 16) asks how much longer he must wait before his 30-year-old premium bond wins its first prize. Unfortunately, Ernie has no memory. The year-old bond has exactly the same prospects as a brand new one going into its first draw this month.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. HUMPHRIES,
36 Penmanor, Finstall,
Bromsgrove, Worcestershire,
March 16.

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Epsom, Surrey,
March 16.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 19 1881

Alexander II (1818-81) succeeded to the throne of Russia in 1855. For nearly 30 years he was the instigator of reforms, his greatest achievement being the emancipation of the serfs in 1861. But the pace of change was too slow for some, and Alexander was killed by a bomb on March 13 while driving in St Petersburg.

THE LATE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA

(By Telegraph.)

(From our Correspondents.)

ST. PETERSBURG, March 18.

The air of St. Petersburg is full of rumours of streets undermined and further plots. Half the stories, however, are the product of Russian imagination. The account of the explosive pills which were sent to his late Majesty a short time before his terrible assassination appears to be the only one of its kind to which any amount of belief may be attached. In this case there really is sufficient testimony in its favour. A box of patent pills was sent to the late Czar, and specially recommended for their cure of asthma, from which Alexander II suffered for a long time before his end. These pills were given to Professor Botkin to analyse, and in opening the box a slight detonation ensued, but owing to some disarrangement of the mechanism the intended explosion did not follow. With regard to the mines yet undiscovered, there is believed to be another preparation similar to that in the Garden-street, buried under some other part of the route traversed by the deceased Emperor on Sunday afternoon. All the houses in that quarter are accordingly being diligently searched from top to bottom, but I have not yet heard that anything has been found. The determination which recent information proves the nihilists to have shown on Sunday in order to make sure of their Imperial victim has very naturally roused the police to strongly suspect that the whole of the plot has not yet been brought to light. One of the clever precautions taken by the assassins was the coating of the deadly pellets with something white, so that they might not be distinguished in the snow in case of their non-explosion or for other contingencies. About a couple of pounds of pyroxyline appear to have composed the mine in Garden-street. The occupier of the premises and his female companion disappeared previous to the discovery, and have not yet been traced.

It is at present arranged, although the programme, of course, subject to alterations, that the coronation of Alexander III shall take place at Moscow on the expiration of the period of deep mourning, and the residence of the Imperial party in the ancient capital will then be prolonged until the end of the year. The Moscow provinces of the present Czar are well known to this favour, and it is expected that the Emperor will, no doubt, increase his popularity among the mass of the people.

It has given much satisfaction here to read in the circular addressed to foreign Powers that the Emperor Alexander III will devote his efforts before everything else to the internal necessities of the Empire. At the same time it is thought that the announcement that the foreign policy of Russia will not suffer any interruption or change, although it is to be essentially pacific, will at once set at rest the speculations abroad on this head.

The refusal of the Polish delegates in the Austrian Reichsrath to adhere to the vote of condolence has drawn some anger from the pens of anti-Polish journalists, but in general the Press treats it as a mere drop in the ocean of sympathy and sorrow which the foreign nations have offered...

Oxford Chancellor
From the Reverend R. P. Stone
Sir, There will be many wishing to congratulate Mr Roy Jenkins on his election as Chancellor of Oxford University (report, March 16). However, there is one matter which must be casting a shadow over his pleasure in his victory — namely, that he was elected by a minority of the votes cast in a "first-past-the-post" contest; exactly the system which he considers so disastrously unsuitable for parliamentary elections.

Would it not be an honourable and striking gesture if, before his installation, Mr Jenkins resubmitted himself to the Oxford electorate under some system of proportional representation? Yours faithfully,
PETER STONE,
15a Bishopwood Road, N6,
March 16.

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36 Penmanor, Finstall,
Bromsgrove, Worcestershire,
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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY

* Seats available
* Returns only

THEATRE

LONDON

* **FASCINATING AIDA:** The witty, sexy, subversive threewoman, spanning and landing about. Picaresque Theatre, Oldham Street, London W1 (01-437 4506). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

* **THE EMPEROR:** The last days of Helle Scelassie, the last of the stage by Michael Hastings and Jonathan Miller. Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1 (01-730 2554). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Sun 4pm, April 11.

* **MARCH OF THE FALSETTOS:** Previews of the zippy, witty musical by William Finn concerning the home life of New York's musicals. Library Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

* **NO WORRIES:** Spoil-binding musical for young people about Matilda, daughter of an Australian sheep-farmer, forced to move to the city. Last week. Young Vic Theatre, 65 The Cut, London SE1 (01-828 6363). Tube: Waterloo. Wed 10.30pm-12.30pm, Thurs-Sat 2.40pm and 7.40pm, 2.50pm, 2.55pm, adults, until March 21.

* **NUNSENSE:** Previews of award-winning Old-Broadway musical set in a convent too poor to bury all 45 of its nuns possessed by vices. Honour Blackman sets about raising the Fortune Theatre, Russell Street, London WC2 (01-836 2238). Tube: Covent Garden. Previews Mon-Fri 8.10-10.20pm, Sat 8.10-10.20pm, Sun 2.30-5.20pm, 2.50pm, 2.55pm, adults, until March 21.

* **SIEGFRIED SASSOON:** Peter Brook uses the poet's own words to tell his story: a limited viewpoint but still effective. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 2261/01-434 3598). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Tues-Sat 8-10pm, matinee Wed 3-5pm, Sat 5-7pm, Sun 4-6.30pm, 4.21-5.10pm, until March 21.

* **SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR:** Pirandello's most famous play: powerful mix of metaphysics and theatrical hooks. National Theatre (Old Vic), South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 2252). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.15-9.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.20pm.

* **LONG RUNNERS:** The Business of Murder. Mayfair Theatre (01-828 3036). * **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072) or 01-240 9067/01-4079. * **Chess:** Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). * **42nd Street:** Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 6108/01-01-240 9067/01-4079). * **My Darling Clementine:** Theatre (01-836 7611/7358 and 01-240 7913/4). * **Misérables:** Palace Theatre (01-836 7611/7358 and 01-240 7913/4).

BEST SELLING BOOKS

Best selling books for the week ending March 14

FICTION
1 The Enigma of Arrival, V. S. Naipaul
2 The Enigma of Arrival, V. S. Naipaul
3 The Enigma of Arrival, V. S. Naipaul
4 The Enigma of Arrival, V. S. Naipaul
5 The Enigma of Arrival, V. S. Naipaul

NON-FICTION
1 Where There's a Will, Michael Heseltine
2 The Life of R. A. Butler, Anthony Howard
3 The Life of R. A. Butler, Anthony Howard
4 The Life of R. A. Butler, Anthony Howard
5 The Life of R. A. Butler, Anthony Howard

Source: Hachards, 187 Piccadilly, London W1

OUT OF TOWN

BOLTON: * **Black Star:** New play by David Pountney about the Aldridge, the first great black actor, meeting prejudice and censorship on his Polish tour. Old Vic Theatre, King Street, London WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

BRADFORD: * **Kiss Me Kate:** Paul Jones as Petruchio and Nicholas McAvoy as Kate in the RSC's first American musical. Tickets scarce. Alderman Theatre, Morley Street, London WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

BRISTOL: * **The Doctor's Dilemma:** Shaw's fun at the expense of the medical profession. Old Vic Theatre, King Street, London WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

BRISTOL: * **The Road:** Ian Dury in Jim Cartwright's scorching account of life and sex in dead-end Britain. Old Vic Theatre, King Street, London WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

CAMBRIDGE: * **Peer Gynt:** Cambridge Theatre Company returns to base with Michael Maloney playing Ibsen's feckless hero. Arts Theatre, Peas Hill (0223 55220). Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

LANCASTER: * **Satanstoe:** Award-winning play by Louise Page, age, youth and a ghost from the past meet on the once bloody battle ground. Dukes Theatre, Moor Lane (0524 69645). Tues-Sat 7.30-9.50pm, Sun 2.30-5.20pm, 2.50pm, 2.55pm, adults, until March 21.

LEEDS: * **Pravda:** Philip Voss plays the colonial newspaper tycoon in a famous tale of old Fleet Street. Theatre Royal, Colindale Avenue, London NW9 (01-828 2252). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.15-9.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.20pm.

LEICESTER: * **Bohème:** The electrifying production by the Earth Theatre, Leicester, passion, humour and humanity. Haymarket Theatre Studio, Belgrave (0533 53797). Mon-Thurs 8-10.10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-10.30pm, Sun 11.40pm, 7.30pm, extended until March 21.

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Source: Hachards, 187 Piccadilly, London W1

FILMS

* Also on national release

* **Advance booking possible**
CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD (15): Polished version of the Broadway play, with William Hurt as the teacher of deaf adolescents emotionally involved with a former pupil (Marlee Matlin). Nominated for five Oscars (113 min). * **Canon Fenton Road** (01-370 2636, cc 01-373 6950). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.00.

* **THE COLOR OF MONEY** (15): Paul Newman returns to the pool table in a belated sequel to *The Hustler*. Martin Scorsese works hard whipping up excitement as Fast Eddie Nelson tries to get back into the game, spurred by jealousy of a young protégé played by Tony Danza (119 min). Cannon Cinema (01-352 8086). Progs 2.25, 4.40, 8.55.

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Making a change from the on-going parade of old American musicals hauled back from the past, *March of the Falsettos* was born in the '80s, though it has taken six years to make it here from New York, by way of a successful run at the Library Theatre, Manchester. Composer and lyricist William Finn calls it "a pastiche work about being scared to death of love," and if this sounds an awesome theme the result is zippy, unique and exhilarating. There is no dancing and no dialogue, but into its compact playing-time (one and a quarter hours) are packed nineteen songs, excluding reprises. The plot's variation on the old routine of boy leaves girl for other girl comes early when husband leaves wife and son to live with male lover. Wife starts affair with husband's psychiatrist and the story whirles on from there. Harshly witty and sung with such clarity, the wit can be relaxed at first hearing. All five performers are singers with a string of shows behind them, and even Damien Walker, only twelve years-old, has appeared in five musicals. Previewing now at the Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3878). Mon to Thurs, 8-9.15pm, Fri and Sat, 7.30-8.45pm and 9.30-10.45pm, £3-10.50. Opens March 24.

EVENING

* **MACCONCHY'S BUTH:** Elisabeth Macconchy's birthday is celebrated by various artists performing a number of her compositions including *Sun, Moon and Stars*, *Fantasia*, *Quartetto corto*, *Three Sons*, and *Singing Quartet No 11*. Warwick Square, London SW1 (01-491 8111), 5.15-6.15pm, 2.50.

* **FAURE/WALTON:** The Royal Choral Society and BBC Concert Orchestra perform the premiere of *Requiem and Walton's Requiem and Walton's Requiem*. Belsize Hall, Hampstead, London NW4 (01-836 7400), 7.30-9.30pm, £2-10.

* **SEAMAN/SNO:** Christopher Seaman conducts the Scottish National Orchestra in Ravel's *Alborada del gracioso* and César Franck's *Symphony*. Paul and Maureen Tordella (soprano) sing in *Villalobos's Bachiana Brasileira No 5*. City Hall, Candelaria, Glasgow (041 552 5961, cc 041 227 5015), 7.30-9.30pm, £2-10.

* **PARK LANE QUARTETS:** The last of the Park Lane Group's string quartet series has the Albery Quartet playing Haydn's *Quartet Op No 6*, Bartók's *Quartet No 5*, and the London premiere of Nigel Osborne's *Quartet*. Park Lane, London W1 (01-828 8800), 7.30-9.30pm, £2-10.

* **EARL WILD:** The great pianist performs Mozart's *Gluck Variations* (1811), Progs 2.00, 4.40, 7.35. * **WIVES TEN YEARS AFTER** (15): Three wives assess their lives and husbands during a Christmas binge in Oslo. Sequel to the 1976 Norwegian comedy film *Wives*, with the same cast and director - Arne Breien (88 min). Cannon Cinema (01-352 8086). Progs 2.10, 4.40, 8.55.

* **TRICK OR TREAT** (18): A dead rock star of limited talent comes back to life to avenge his critics - an endearing premise raucously developed. Written by Mike Piro and Tony Farrow; directed by the actor Charles Martin (88 min). Cannon Cinema (01-352 8086). Progs 2.10, 4.40, 8.55.

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Source: Hachards, 187 Piccadilly, London W1

DANCE

* **SWAN LAKE:** Ravenna Tucher and Philip Broomhead dance the Swan Lake in the new production for the Royal Ballet. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 9067/01-4079). Mon to Thurs, 8-9.15pm, Fri and Sat, 7.30-8.45pm and 9.30-10.45pm, £3-10.50. Opens March 24.

* **ALLEGRI DIVERS:** David Birtley's latest hit, to Rossini music, is given by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet with three premieres - *Swan Lake*, *La Sylphide*, and *Les Femmes d'Alger*. Sadler's Wells, London WC1 (01-836 3878), 7.30-9.30pm, £2-10.

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ROCK

* **THE CULT:** If we allow that Run DMC and the Beastie Boys have turned Led Zeppelin and AC/DC into latter-day heavy metal, the Cult is a modern phenomenon or a revivalist rock show? Discuss with reference to great guitar riffs of the 1960s. The Cult, London WC1 (01-836 3878), 7.30-9.30pm, £2-10.

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Source: Hachards, 187 Piccadilly, London W1

TALKS

* **CHARLESTON FARMHOUSE AND THE BLOOMSBURY GROUP:** Illustrated lecture by Peter Hall of the National Trust. Charleston Farmhouse, Charleston, Kent. Mon-Fri 10-12.30pm, Sat 10-12.30pm, Sun 10-12.30pm, £2-10.

* **STRENGTH FOR THE JOURNEY:** Lighthouse by David Winter, BBC Radio's Head of Religious Programmes. St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3878), 7.30pm, £2-10.

* **COMPUTERS AND PEOPLE - MATCHING MACHINES TO MINDS:** Inaugural Lecture by Dr J. B. Long, Professor of Cognitive Ergonomics, University of Lancaster. Lancaster, Lancashire. Mon-Fri 10-12.30pm, Sat 10-12.30pm, Sun 10-12.30pm, £2-10.

* **WEST CORNWALL SPRING SHOW:** West display of spring flowers, with many varieties of daffodils and local spring vegetables, with competitions throughout. St John's Hall, Alverton Street, Penzance, Cornwall. Today 2-5pm, tomorrow 10-7.30pm. Adults 50p, includes catalogue, child 25p.

* **PROVINCIAL BOOK-SELLERS FAIR:** Antiquarian, second-hand books, prints and ephemera from all over the country. Leamington Spa, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Mon-Fri 10-12.30pm, Sat 10-12.30pm, Sun 10-12.30pm, £2-10.

* **MUSIUM WORKSHOP:** Meeting with member of staff to talk about medieval jewellery and show objects from the museum's collection. Museum of London, London WC1 (01-836 3878), 1.10pm (free).

* **POETRY EVENING:** Readings from Anne Stevenson's Selected Poems. The Poetry Society, National Poetry Centre, 21 Ears Court Square, London SW5 (01-373 7851). Reception 5.30pm, readings 7.30pm. Adult £2.50, child £2.

* **THREE DRESSES:** Chance to meet gallery staff and look at ways in which the three dresses have been interpreted from the past. Manchester City Art Gallery, Mosley Street, Manchester. 1.15pm meet entrance hall (free).

* **BL FILMS:** In search of Jane Austen (1.15pm). The Landlady's Gospels (2pm). The British Library, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (01-836 1544), free.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

* **PORGY AND BESS:** Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under direction of two performances of Garthman, with Bruce Hubbard and Lavigne Williams in title roles. July 4-5. Save £2 if booking before April. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 3191, cc 01-828 8800).

* **SARCOPHAGUS:** British premiere of play by Vladimir Gubarev, based on Chernobyl explosion, directed by Yule Kaly. From April 9. RSC, The Pit, Barrow, Cumbria, Cumbria. Mon-Fri 8-10.30pm, Sat 10-12.30pm, Sun 10-12.30pm, £2-10.

* **MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD:** London Festival Orchestra visit showing how Rubens prepared for painting the great Descent from the Cross in Antwerp Cathedral. Courtyard Institute Gallery, Woburn Square, London WC1 (01-580 1015), Mon-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until April 26.

* **PAULA REGO:** Less strident and more narrative paintings than usual from this major Portuguese artist now living in Britain. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 3191, cc 01-828 8800).

* **LA BOHÈME:** Göran Jönvall's production for Welsh National Opera, with Anne Williams-King and John Davies. Welsh National Opera, Cardiff. Mon-Fri 8-10.30pm, Sat 10-12.30pm, Sun 10-12.30pm, £2-10.

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THE ARTS

Agony aunts

Should Nancy Reagan ever look at herself in a fairground Hall of Mirrors she'd find both Dr Ruth Westheimer and Helen Gurley Brown staring back at her, just as they appeared on *Ask Dr Ruth* (Channel 4). Whether compressed into the squat doctor, or stretched into the android Gurley Brown, they were similarly uncanny distortions of that walking beige hair-do.

Since the only troubles worth having were ones that could be resolved in under 45 seconds, this show was less concerned with solving anybody's problems than it was with providing a sandwich board for the consultants' dogma. Gurley Brown, editor of *American Cosmopolitan*, set

TELEVISION

the pace of the debate on women and infidelity: "I don't see how a single girl can survive without an occasional married man to fill in the gaps and to save off hunger during the lean times," she proclaimed.

Neither the callers nor the studio audience appeared to derive much comfort from the declaration, but Dr Ruth was obviously enjoying herself hugely. And, in the end, that really seemed to be all that mattered.

"It's odd that throughout my life there has been this desire to find out the limitations in me," said Rory McCarthy, one of two clean-cut stockbroking parachutists in *QED: The World's Longest Drop* (BBC1). He had countered near-death on Mont Blanc with a promise to do something more spectacular the next time — an attempt to beat the free-fall record (six miles before opening the parachutes, and defying odds on frozen release cables, oxygen failure, and blacked-out). It was that desire which, because steadily less comprehensible, and ultimately intriguing.

Alexandra Shulman

ROCK

Kodo Sadler's Wells

Kodo is an 11-piece Japanese percussion company, and for 15 years the players have applied themselves with single-minded zeal to the art of banging drums — called *miya-daiko* — in a largely successful effort to create and export new compositions utilizing the ancient instruments and folklore of their culture.

Judging by the lean athleticism of their performance, their skill depends no less on rigorous physical discipline than it does on their ability to keep time. For the finale, two of the troop, clad in loincloths and each wielding a hefty pair of batons, launched what may best be described as an all-out assault on either end of a huge drum at least 4ft in diameter, and weighing approximately 900lb.

Prior to this exhibition there were displays of ensemble playing on more modestly sized instruments that produced interlocking rhythmic crescendos. The *miya-daiko* sound roughly like tightly-tuned, undamped toms, but because of their size and weight they carry a deeper, more rounded resonance. Much of the material, like the opening piece "Miyake", proceeded from the unison playing of expertly co-ordinated single-stroke rolls embellished by individual players improvising above the rhythm, to produce a blood-curdling symphony of thundering sound.

In marked contrast, a strangled zither-like instrument called a *koto* and a pair of steel drums were used on "Hae", to create a beautiful melancholy tune that sounded like a Japanese equivalent of the blues. The odd bits of dance and mime that fleshed out the performance were less compelling.

David Sinclair

Kean edge to a triumph

Diane Hill, in Paris, watches film star Jean-Paul Belmondo tackle Sartre on stage — and win

THEATRE

Kean, on *Désordre et Génie*
Théâtre Marigny, Paris

So often, the higher the wave of super-hype that precedes a play, the lower the chances that you are in for an evening which fully justifies the surfeit of adjectives. *Kean*, directed by Robert Hossein and starring (here the word is not abused) Jean-Paul Belmondo, is a rare exception.

This big-budget treatment of Alexandre Dumas's play about the English tragedian, as reworked by Jean-Paul Sartre under the full title of *Kean, ou Désordre et génie*, is, indeed, hype-worthy.

Pierre Simonini's five décorers are lavish. Sylvie Poulet's beautiful period costumes are so completely in accordance with the design they are a joy. Hossein's direction is a carefully thought-out work of dramatic art. And, as *Kean*, Belmondo remains one of France's biggest box-office draws. For, despite the excellence of the 35-strong cast, it is upon his well-developed shoulders that the success of



Belmondo, bold and brilliant: after 27 years in cinema, the veteran French actor returns to his classical theatrical roots

this four-hour epic finally comes to rest.

After 27 years of cinema scenarios of crime and violence, the crumpled-faced Belmondo returns to his original classical theatrical roots — among them two productions at the Comédie Française. It is as if he has never been away. His sense of the theatre is impeccable, and he articulates Sartre's not always easy dialogue with a power and a passion that ricochets around the auditorium.

Known for refusing to use a stuntman for any of his tough-guy film exploits, he arrives on stage like a 19th century Tarzan from a box in the circle. When he tumbles down a flight of stairs there is no faking the fall.

Just as Dumas wrote *Kean* in 1836 for Frédéric Le-maitre, and more than a century later (1954) Sartre remodelled the work for the late Pierre Brasseur — both *sacres monstres* of their day — Hossein recreates the role of Kean for Belmondo. Sartre subverted the stylized melodrama of Dumas in favour of a more psychological exploration of Kean's character, laced with philosophical reflections on the role of an actor in society.

Hossein, while remaining true to Sartre's text, brings to the surface Kean's swash-buckling nature, thus lightening the often heavy text with flamboyant action and visual excitement. This fiery treatment also enables Belmondo

to ignite Sartre's bursts of verbal fireworks — moments which could so easily have been dramatic dampeners, because of their erudite intentions.

Hossein's use of four mimed interludes is a touch of near genius, designed to occupy the audience between the miraculously silent scene changes. Two virtually unknown young mimes, Stephen James Back and Yvan Ormond, act out Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* with such poignancy and talent that, at the final curtain call, they deservedly received tumultuous applause.

The events of the play owe more to Dumas's imagination than to reality, but they do give rise to some plum second

roles. Every Frenchman's idea of the perfect Englishman, Pierre Vernier gives a polished performance as a roguish Prince of Wales.

Sabine Haudepin is a suitably ingenuous Anna Damby, whose sights are set on becoming Kean's Desdemona, both on and off the stage. As the Countess Elena — the unobtainable object of Kean's affections — Béatrice Agenin nicely imbues the role with an aristocratic capriciousness. There is an amusing resigned affection, in Michel Beugnot's portrayal of Salomon, Kean's faithful retainer.

● *Kean* runs until the end of June. There is the possibility of a revival in the autumn.

The bodies in question

John Russell Taylor dissects a show dedicated to the artist's changing view of human anatomy

GALLERY

Bodylines
National Gallery

The great advantage of having at your disposal a pool of reference like the National Gallery's permanent collection is that you can constantly recycle it, selecting from it now this way, now that, in such a fashion that you illuminate not only the pictures included, but also some other, more general (or more specific) theme.

The personal selections we have had in the last few years from a variety of living British artists are one way of doing it. The "Acquisition in Focus" series is another. And the new show, *Bodylines: The Human Figure in Art* (until May 17) is a third, thematic approach which one can imagine being endlessly extended.

The show is mounted by the Education Department, and catalogued by two members of the department, Felicity Woolf and Michael Cassin.

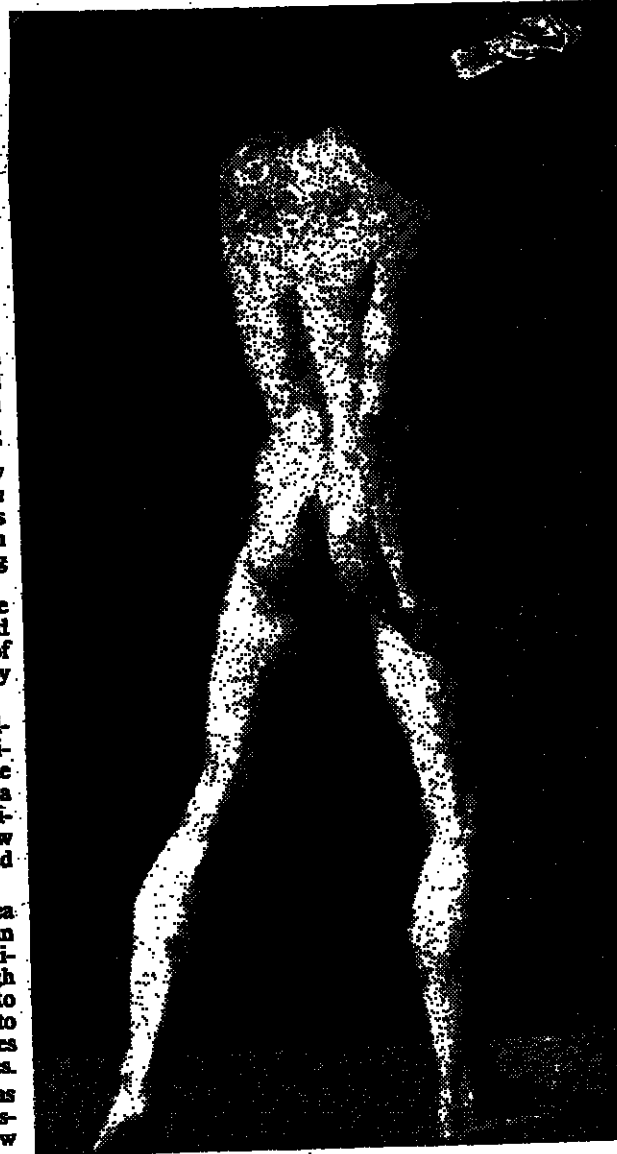
But any unfortunate associations of dryness and stuffiness which might cling to the very idea of education in a gallery context can immediately be dismissed. The show is smallish, concentrated, and wholly fascinating.

It follows the artist's idea and treatment of the human body in painting, from medieval convention through Renaissance reference to classical antiquities and on to the prevalence of life studies in the 18th and 19th centuries.

It concludes with a Degas pastel nude which, the devisers suggest, may bring a new element into play, owing less perhaps to Degas' studies of Old Master technique and to the then-relatively new invention of photography.

All of the paintings, from the 13th century Master of San Francesco to the end of the nineteenth century, come from the National Gallery's own collection.

But they are given a context by a group of sculptures, classical or contemporary, displayed with the paintings, and a selection of drawings, and



Nineteenth-century masculinity: a male nude ascribed to the French artist Jean-Louis-Alexandre Théodore Géricault (1791-1824), one of the lesser-known works in the *Bodylines* show

prints borrowed from other public collections in London, Oxford and Edinburgh.

It is useful, thus, to be able to compare immediately Cima's elegant, untroubled *Saint Sebastian* with the closely contemporary polychromed wood sculpture from the school of Arn von Kalkar (so much more expressive of suffering), or

Correggio's *Venus in the School of Love* with a classical sculpture of *Venus* adopting the same gesture.

Later, and more unexpected, an illuminating comparison is suggested between Reynolds's *General Sir Banastre Tarleton* and a classical statue of *Cincinnatus* photographed from a version in the Louvre. From this, or

something like it, Reynolds adopted his young soldier's heroic pose.

It is also helpful to have artists' gradually evolving consciousness of anatomy chronicled by a couple of Leonardo's anatomical drawings and a Canini drawing of a 17th century life class, as well as a Rowlandson print of a life class as conducted at the Royal Academy.

The show also brings together, for the first time in many years (maybe ever) the National Gallery's Pergino painting of *Tobias and the Angel* and the Ashmolean's silverpoint study for the painting.

This allows us to see how the artist rethought his figures from the fairly modish garments of the time in which he originally drew them — and note how he finally decided to use in the painting his second thought, independently noted, of just how they should hold hands.

But the key to the effect of the show is its invitation to look again, in a new light, at about 20 of the Gallery's possessions. Some are well-known (like the Caravaggio *Boy Bitten by a Lizard* or the Rembrandt *Woman Bathing in a Stream*), some much less familiar, like the Johann Liss *Judith in the Tent of Holofernes* or the academic study, remarkably freely handled, of a muscular male nude ascribed to Gérault.

Both of these certainly deserve to be closely examined for themselves, the catalogue points out, for instance, how the rather complicated pose of the Judith, holding the head away from us (it is the moment immediately after decapitation) and looking back over her shoulder with a suspiciously satisfied expression, all serves to show off Liss's virtuoso grasp of anatomy in action.

By being directed to concentrate on the handling of the human figure we find ourselves observing extra subtleties or hitherto unrecognized strengths in even the most hackneyed works, and go out ready to see other parts of the collection with a newly enlivened eye.

OPERA

Macbeth
Victoria Hall, Cromarty

The lashing of some vicious squalls against the windows of the Victoria Hall in Cromarty certainly added an atmospheric frisson to Scottish Opera's Go-Round's pocket-sized production of Verdi's *Macbeth* on Tuesday night.

For, while Richard Jones's production may be small enough to put in the back of a post office van and tour around the Scottish highlands and islands, it lacks for nothing in dramatic punch.

With his translator, Andrew Porter — the piece is given in English, including large chunks of Shakespeare — Jones has slimmed down Verdi to just seven principals and a boy. What we lose in grandeur is amply compensated for by immediacy and clarity in the story-telling and wit and imagination in the staging.

The entrance and subsequent murder of Duncan, played in *Macbeth* by a white-masked little boy, is a case in point. The table for the feast, surrounded on three sides by some of the movable stage flats which constitute the set, becomes the bed for the killing and at the same time the altar for the sacrifice. The effect is to make flesh the whole subtext — the innocent lamb led to the slaughter, the baseness of Macbeth's holiness or the academic study, having said that, the set as a whole (designed by Nigel Lowery) is simply ghastly — painted a hideous orange, for no apparent reason, and dreadfully flimsy.

Musically, however, the evening is an almost total winner. All the voices were in fine form. The Macbeths' brief duet (Omar Elrahman and Maey Lloyd-Davies) as they swear vengeance on Macduff was genuinely thrilling.

Elrahman has the advantage of a naturally hunted look, even in repose, and I also liked David Marsh's Banquo. His rich bass and imposing stature made you feel that Scotland would be better off all round with his progeny on the throne, whatever Macbeth got up to.

Robert Dawson Scott

The Greeks had a word for it

CONCERTS

Messiaen Festival
Royal Academy of Music

The huge tricolour draped over the Duke's Hall balcony was not really necessary, because from the stage came a sound so unique to one composer that it proclaimed its nationality and epoch more clearly than any placard could. The calls of a dozen French songbirds were being played simultaneously by 18 solo strings in a polyphony as dense, exotic and seemingly endless as a tropical jungle.

This was the celebrated "Épode" movement of *Chronochromie*, the massive orchestral score written in 1960, and the performance of *Chronochromie* was the first major event in the Royal Academy of Music's current Messiaen Festival.

The festival runs until Sunday, touching on every aspect of the RAM's activities — from organ-playing (naturally) and song recitals to vast corporate efforts like this concert. It involves a large percentage of the student body, and has the ultimate stimulus — the presence of the 78-year-old Olivier Messiaen himself — to inspire them through the wide-ranging programmes. Moreover this concert, in which two RAM orchestras amalgamated under Nicholas Cleobury's unfailingly clear direction, raised high expectations of the overall standard.

The mounting of *Chronochromie* was particularly impressive, because the work marks one extreme in Messiaen's output. Organized according to a series of ingenious mathematical permutations, it rigorously links a spectacular mesh of wild rhythms to "colouristic" elements like orchestration and, of course, birdsong (hence the title, a Greek pun: "colour of time").

But what strikes the listener is the overwhelming beauty of the quasi-gamelan washes from tuned percussion (some superb playing here) and the sheer impact of Messiaen's block chords: thick harmonies, wondrously orchestrated with crushing sweetness, and often moving at dazzling pace.

The lines must be wretchedly awkward to play and to place; nevertheless, this was a performance of much cohesion and considerable passion. So far as one could judge details, they seemed accurate to a degree which attested patient preparation in sectional rehearsals. There was much to admire, too, about Cleobury's excellent treatment of the *Trois Petites Liturgies de la Présence Divine*, where Tristan Murail and Andrew West were stylish soloists (on *ondes martenot* and piano respectively) and where the RAM Ladies' Choir produced some appropriately sensuous tone for Messiaen's mystic expressions of religious ecstasy, alternately erotic and jolly.

Richard Morrison

Stepping lively

Philharmonia/
Sinopoli
Festival Hall

Giuseppe Sinopoli's reputation with Elgar has certainly gone before him: last time they met at the Festival Hall, the air was thick with controversy. Too much circumstance, it was said, too little pounce: one listener would find regenerative vigour, another would hear only perversity.

This time it was the Second Symphony, and I found Sinopoli's a bracing, almost entirely convincing approach. His way is characteristically to look at a score through opera-glasses rather than field-glasses; but this time his often near-obsessive attention to detail did not obscure the longer perspective.

Not that is, until the last movement, where his determination to work on the music's fever and fret by making the most of rhythmic dislocation did mute the majesty which Elgar prescribed for the symphony's close.

Before that, Sinopoli's skill lay in judging to a nicety the long-limbed gait of the opening allegro. By keeping upbeats short, and brass crisp and agile, each harmonically shifting theme had fresh elasticity in its tread.

The heavy swell of the string playing threatened to lead the lurch into the direction of the opening, and self-regarding, *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*. But if the second and third themes had more of Mahlerian than Elgarian melancholy about them, their character was vindicated by the muscle with which they were developed orchestrally.

The evening was also the occasion of the Festival Hall debut of the 17-year-old cellist, Matt Haimovitz. He chose Lalo's D minor Concerto and masked its tendency towards diffuseness with playing of imaginative and sophisticated spirit. After the finely controlled intermezzo, I look forward to a return visit with Dvorak in his suitcase.

Hilary Finch

Korea moves

LSO/Whum
Chung
Barbican

Choosing not to avail himself of any printed score to control his singers and orchestra, Myung Whum Chung missed not a Rossinian point in his conducting of a passionately felt *Stabat Mater* with the London Symphony Orchestra.

His four impressive soloists — Cynthia Haymon, Lucia Valentini-Terrani, Keith Lewis and Willard White — each reflected utterly differing approaches to the technique and style of singing Rossini, rather than as a unified quartet. Yet each had something to admire as well as blending tonally together.

The conductor entrusted "Quando Corpus Morietur" to the Pro Musica Chorus instead of the solo voices, and was rewarded for it by un-

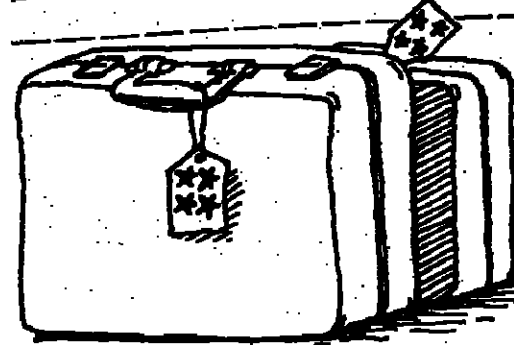
accompanied choral singing of uncommon assurance and balance of tone here and in the earlier "Eja Mater" movement.

In the orchestral numbers the playing benefited from a skilful moulding of rhythm and sonority. If it was not quite the indestructible tenderness so admired by Heine, the music's spirit glowed with a fervent vigour and character.

A change of soloist brought another Korean, Kun Woo Paik, to give a suitably glittery and buoyant account of Ravel's *G major Piano Concerto*, but with a quietly poetic central movement to contrast with the surrounding exuberance. The orchestra, however, seemed disinclined to provide the necessary rhythmic flexibility, without which the music's sharp sophistication of character can seem to be mere contrivance.

Noël Goodwin

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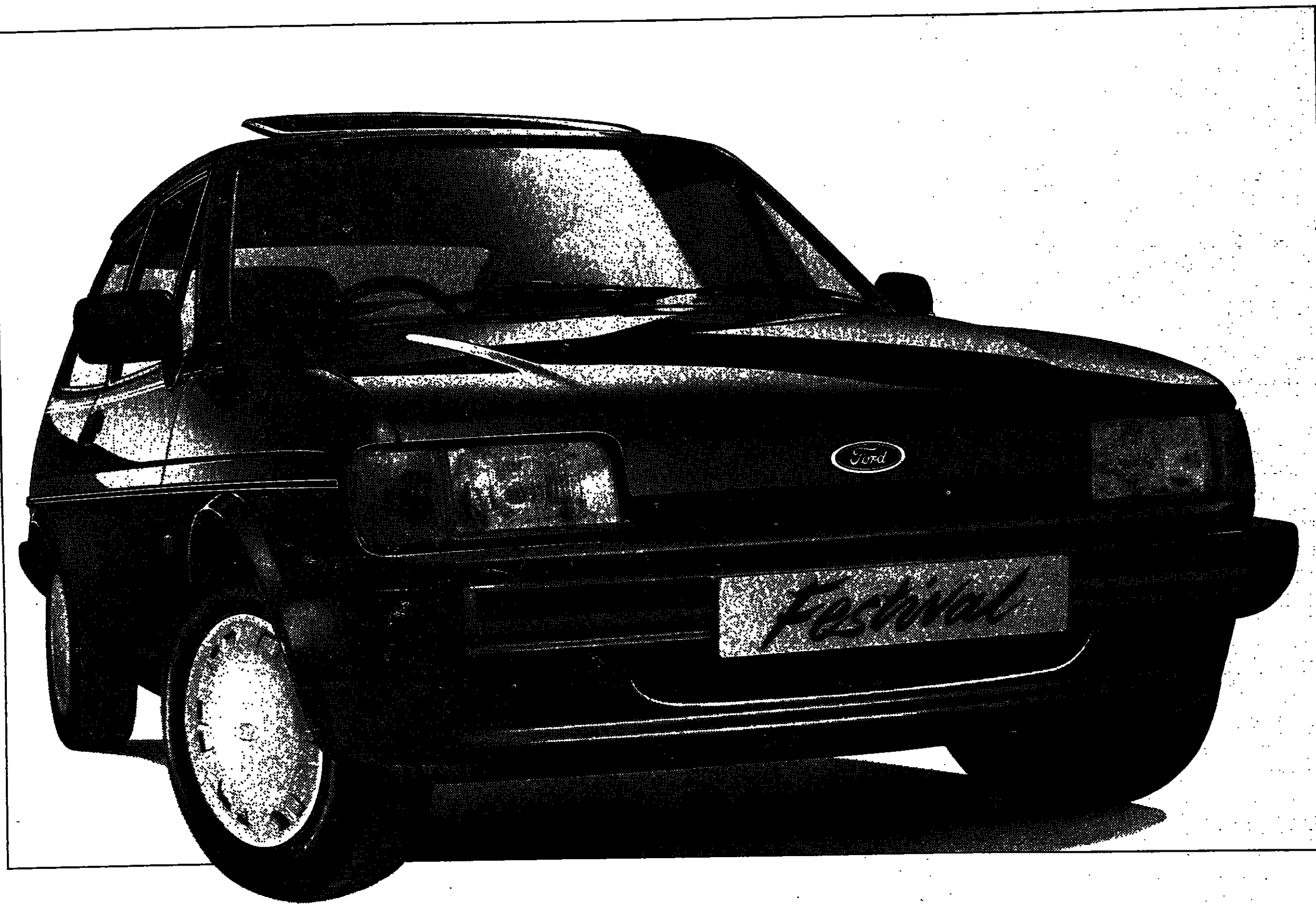


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Caution
half

THE FOUND

Profits at
DRG
rise 32

Spending

TSB

TSB

TSB

TSB

TSB

TSB

TSB

TSB

TSB

TSB

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1589.5 (+2.6)

FT-SE 100

2006.6 (+0.3)

Bargains

52571 (39886)

USM (Datastream)

159.95 (+0.33)

THE POUND

US dollar

1.6060 (+0.0050)

W German mark

2.9486 (+0.0116)

Trade-weighted

72.6 (+0.5)

Profits at
DRG
rise 32%

DRG, the stationary and packaging group, continued the steady recovery of the last four years by reporting a 32 per cent increase in pretax profits to £41.2 million on turnover 9 per cent higher at £680.2 million.

The 1986 pretax figures were struck after exceptional reorganization and redundancy costs of £3.9 million. Earnings per share grew by 15 per cent to 28.6p despite the dilution caused by the one-for-four rights issue of late 1985. A dividend of 5.7p was declared making a total of 9.35p for the year.

TV group chief

Samuelson, the television and film equipment group hit by a sharp first-half profit fall, has named Sir John Mayhew-Sanders, the former chairman of John Brown, to take over as chief executive from Mr Sydney Samuelson who remains as full-time chairman.

Dixons wins

Dixons has won its bid to expand heavily into the United States through the takeover of the Cyclopedia group of home entertainment retailers. An attempt to block the \$384 million (£240 million) bid failed on Tuesday.

TSB report

The Trustee Savings Bank published its report and accounts for last year yesterday instead of the planned date of next Monday after it found the Post Office had already sent some off to shareholders.

Peat merger

Peat Marwick International, the accounting and management consulting firm, has merged with Nolan, Norton and Company, the strategic information technology consultancy.

Burton bid

Burton has made an agreed bid for Peapack Estates, a private property company, for £6 million. This acquisition will provide further high street space for Burton's retail businesses.

Coloroll buy

Coloroll Group is to pay £8.5 million for Wallbridge Holdings, a private carpet manufacturer based in Frome, Somerset. Wallbridge will also raise £4 million for working capital and expansion, which will be added to the takeover price.

£125m for UB

United Biscuits reported pre-tax profits up 23 per cent to £125.2 million for 1986, fulfilling market expectations.

Tempus, page 27

Bus Summary 26	Money Markets 28
Stock Market 26	Foreign Exch. 28
Natural Dow 26	Traded Ops. 28
Co News 26	United States 28
Central USA Gen 26	Share Prices 29
City Diary 27	Unit Trusts 30
Tempus 27	Commodities 30
Even View 27	USM Prices 30

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	2299.01 (+14.21)
Dow Jones	21705.06 (+190.33)
Hang Seng	2724.01 (+44.73)
Amsterdam Gen	277.1 (+3.1)
Sydney: AO	1693.6 (+3.1)
Frankfurt	1881.6 (+10.8)
Brussels	4499.06 (+18.02)
General	442.9 (+4.1)
Paris: CAC	532.40 (+1.10)
Zurich: S&K Gen	n/a
London: FT-A	2006.6 (+0.3)
FT-B	91.83 (+0.94)
Recent Issues	Page 28
Closing prices	Page 29

INTEREST RATES	
London: Bank Base	10%
3-month Interbank	9.5%
3-month eligible bills	9.5%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	7.75%
Federal Funds	5.75%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.52-5.51%
30-year bonds	100%-100%

CURRENCIES	
London: £	2.15060
DM	2.9486
DM2	2.9486
SwF	2.9486
FF	115.7
Yen	161.87
Index	103.6
ECU	1.704859

Restrained welcome for Budget

Caution rules
half-point cut

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England yesterday made clear its determination to pursue a cautious line on interest rates, by allowing only a half-point reduction in base rates.

After a signal from the Bank, the clearing banks reduced base rates from 10.5 to 10 per cent. A further half-point cut is likely within the next two weeks but some City analysts said that the Bank's caution carried the risk of missing "windows of opportunity" for rate cuts.

The pound showed little reaction to the cut in base rates. Dealers had already discounted a one-point cut in rates to 9.5 per cent, which would have pushed base rates into single figures for the first time since 1984.

It gained half a cent to \$1.6060 and rose by more than a penny to DM2.9506. The sterling index gained 0.5 points to 72.6.

The gilt market paused after the rate cut, having opened strongly on the back of heavy Japanese buying. But the market's strength returned on the hope of more rate cuts to come and gilts ended the day with gains of between 1 and 1½ points at the long end.

Signal for
renewed
spending
spree

By Cliff Feltham

The Chancellor has fired the starting pistol for a new surge of high street spending.

The tax cuts and the promise of lower interest rates should keep the cash registers ringing — although some retailers may not benefit as much as others.

Mr Rod Forrest, the stores analyst at Kleinwort Greaves, the broker, believes mortgage rates could be cut by as much as two per cent. He says, however, that the Bank's caution in the Budget could be worth as much as 4p off the standard rate of tax.

"It looks as if everyone will be continuing to spend at a fair rate and the consumer boom could continue into next year as well," he said.

Mr Jonathan Harper of Savory Mills, the broker, believes clothing stores should do well, particularly Marks and Spencer, Next, Eton and Storehouse. He forecasts a 25 per cent growth in profits for the stores sector.

Morgan Grenfell Securities says that the tax changes should keep consumer spending running at a high level, particularly since there has been no attempt to restrict credit.

The anticipated rise in spending should also help the profits of the brewers which have escaped increases in excise duty, hotels, too, should pick up extra business.

Phillips and Drew say their favoured shares in the retail sector are Harris Queensway, Woolworth and Dixons with Asda-MFI among the food retailers. Among the brewers they tip Whitbread, Allied-Lyons and Bass.

ANZ Merchant Bank, which takes Capel-Cure Myers, the broker, is more cautious, pointing out that many firms, including those already having a good run, while institutions are already heavy investors in the stores sector because of the state of mergers and acquisitions.

Money market interest rates closed at a level consistent with a further cut in base rates to 9.5 per cent. Three-month interbank rate closed at 9.99 per cent.

The Bank signalled its intention on base rates by inviting the discount houses in for 2.30 lending at a 10 per cent rate for 14 days. In the event, £1 billion was lent at this rate. The Bank's tactics do not necessarily point to a moratorium on further rate cuts for the next two weeks, although they are a pointer to the pace at which the authorities would like to see rates coming down.

On only one occasion since the August 1981 monetary control changes have base rates been allowed to fall by more than half a point at a time. But since this was after last year's Budget, market expectations had heightened.

Soon after the Bank's invitation to the discount houses the clearing banks, led by National Westminster and Barclays, cut base rates from 10.5 to 10 per cent. Clearing bank officials said that there were firm prospects for further rate cuts in the coming weeks.

However, some City commentators said that the policy

of attempting to fine tune interest rates downwards was a risky one.

"The Chancellor is trying to match his reputation for fiscal prudence with one for monetary prudence," said Mr Stephen Lewis, head of economic research at Phillips & Drew. "By the time we come to the next rate cut the foreign exchange markets will have forgotten about the Budget. He may be trying to be too clever by half."

Mr John Shepperd, economist at Warburg Securities, said that the aim of the authorities may have been the Machiavellian one of doing just enough to bring about a mortgage rate cut, while steering clear of any risks for sterling.

According to Mr Andrew Smith, economist at Alexander Laing & Cruickshank: "The Government is not willing to allow rates to fall as far or as fast as the money markets are pushing for. There is a major problem just around the corner — the balance of payments. The Government will need to keep interest rates high to defend the pound."

Comment, page 27

Traders abroad
'could be hit'

By Ray Heath

Companies with a large element of overseas earnings could suffer from the Budget, according to many stock market analysts.

Although the Chancellor has indicated that he would want to see sterling holding at around current levels, most equity watchers yesterday believed the recent recovery would continue.

With some forecasts ranging up to \$1.70, and DM3.00 and above, analysts were pointing out that the currency bonus enjoyed by overseas traders when translating profits back into sterling, or in repaying overseas borrowings would be reversed. Even if the pound remained largely unchanged, a useful factor in previous growth would have been eliminated.

Already there have been signs that pricing has become

more competitive for British companies recently, even though the pound is still 15 per cent below the level of the mark compared to a year ago. Any further appreciation against the mark could put profit margins of companies such as Babcock, British Aerospace, General Electric Company, ICI, Guthrie and Jaguar under pressure, analysts said.

Others argued that the effects would be softened by the trend towards using average exchange rates when translating foreign earnings into sterling. But companies which cannot translate foreign earnings at average rates because they have overseas subsidiaries could be more vulnerable, said analysts.

Shares in ICI, which makes 70 per cent of its profits from overseas sales, fell back yesterday.

CGT switch throws life
firms into confusion

By Peter Gardland

There was confusion in the life assurance industry yesterday over the potential impact of a change in capital gains tax proposed in the Budget.

Mr Lawson had announced on Tuesday that companies' capital gains would be charged at the appropriate corporation tax rate. This would mean life companies having to pay their appropriate corporation tax rate of 35 per cent on realized gains rather than the 30 per cent CGT rate they have paid up to now.

Save & Prosper said its initial response was that the proposed change would not apply to life companies. Later yesterday, after consultation with the Treasury, it said it was clear that the change was intended to affect the tax position of life funds, a move

Wedgwood adds to Waterford

By Alexandra Jackson

Operating margins at Waterford Glass, the Irish based manufacturer of crystal and fine china which recently acquired Wedgwood, the British group, more than doubled from 8.5 per cent to 17.4 per cent in the year to the end of December 1986.

This reflected the disposal of non-core operations such as the loss making Renault car distributor, Smith Group. The group is now concentrating on improving operating efficiencies and increasing the market

share in its high margin tableware businesses.

Pretax profits increased in 1986 by 26 per cent to £23.3 million (£20.93 million) on turnover down from £255.2 million to £230.8 million. A contribution of £2.3 million from Wedgwood, acquired last November, was included.

Earnings per share increased by 28 per cent to £1.68p. A final dividend of £1.68p was declared making a total for the year of £2.88p.

The poor state of the tourist market in 1986 is thought to

have depressed 1986 profits by about 10 per cent.

Looking to the future, Mr Patrick Hayes, chairman and chief executive of Wedgwood said that earnings per share should be maintained this year on an enlarged equity base but, thereafter, growth should resume.

Further selective disposals of Wedgwood businesses, accounting for about 5 per cent of group turnover, which do not fit Waterford's strategy are envisaged. The proceeds should eliminate borrowings which represented 66 per cent

of ordinary shareholders' funds at the last year end.

In response to speculation that LIG Group, a thwarted bidder for Wedgwood, was considering a bid for Waterford, Mr Hayes said he had not received any approaches.

The group is well established in Britain and the United States but believes that there is growth potential in Europe and Japan. A greenfield operation in Japan has increased sales from £300,000 to £12 million in the last three years.

T&N cash
call to
raise £71m

By Colin Campbell

Turner & Newall, the mining and engineering group which fought a heated battle for the engineering group AE last year, yesterday called for £71.7 million in a one-for-six rights issue at 20.5p each.

The funds will go some way towards replacing Turner's cash outlay on AE, with the balance being used to reduce borrowings and pay for further developments.

Sir Francis Tombs, chairman, said the legal action, arising from the AE bid battle, against Hill Samuel, the merchant bank, and Cazenove, the broker, with the solicitors Clifford Turner now joined as a party, was "wending its way through the courts."

But Sir Francis declined to quantify the group's claims.

Turner & Newall, accounting for the AE acquisition for only three weeks, yesterday reported 1986 pretax profits of £44.7 million against £39.6 million.

Turnover rose from £535.1 million to £540.8 million. The final dividend rises from 3.65p to 5p a share, making 7.5p (5p) for the year.

Sir Francis added that an additional £5.1 million, over and above the £6.1 million already announced, was being provided to cover restructuring plans for AE, which would include reduced manning levels.

The shares were 11p weaker at 23.0p.

Tempus, page 27

New image
makers for
Eurotunnel

By Teresa Poole

Mr Alastair Morton, the new British co-chairman of Eurotunnel, has moved swiftly to strengthen the Channel tunnel consortium team in the run-up to the planned £750 million summer share sale with three new appointments announced yesterday.

Mr Rory Macnamara has joined Eurotunnel as the co-ordinator for Equity 3 and will take charge of preparations by the company and its advisers for the proposed fund-raising. Mr Macnamara, aged 32, is a senior assistant director in the corporate finance division of Morgan Grenfell, and has been seconded to Eurotunnel.

Eurotunnel has also appointed Mr Martin Hall as director of corporate affairs to improve its public image. Mr Hall, aged 42, will take charge of relations with Parliament, public and the financial community.

Mr Hall joins from the Treasury where he was most recently head of its banking division.

Over the past year Eurotunnel has lost out in the public relations battle with the anti-tunnel lobby, led by Flexlink, and a more effective public relations machine was seen as crucial to the success of Equity 3. Mr Hall will take on the duties previously undertaken by Mr Richard Dixon, who remains a consultant.

Freshfields, the London legal firm, has been retained as coordinating legal adviser under the supervision of Mr John McCall.

Lees to take GKN chair

Sir Trevor Holdsworth is to leave GKN next year after 23 years with the engineering company, and more than eight years in the chair. He will resign at the end of the company's annual meeting in May 1988, shortly before his 61st birthday.

The departure of Sir Trevor, who is highly respected throughout industry, brings a boardroom reshuffle. Mr David B Lees, the present finance director, will become managing director on June 1

this year and will succeed Sir Trevor as chairman a year later. Mr Roy Roberts, the current managing director, and Mr Ian Donald, deputy managing director, will become deputy chairmen from June 1 this year, and, like Sir Trevor, will retire as directors after next year's meeting.

Mr Lees, aged 50, joined GKN in 1970 from a London firm of chartered accountants. He was appointed finance director and joined the main board in 1982.

Lonrho
case
rejected

Lonrho, Mr Roland "Tiny"

Rowland's international trading group, was yesterday refused High Court permission to force Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, to make an urgent referral decision over the takeover of House of Fraser by the Egyptian Al-Fayed brothers.

The Al-Fayed acquired House of Fraser for £615 million in March 1985, after Lonrho had sold its holding to the Al-Fayed.

In the High Court, Mr John Caldwell, Beveridge, QC, requested orders to compel the Secretary of State to reach a decision whether or not to refer the Al-Fayed takeover.

Mr Channon has discretionary powers to refer approved takeovers to the MMC if material facts emerge subsequently showing that grounds for a referral had indeed existed at the time. Mr Justice Simon Brown refused Lonrho's application, ruling it was premature, as the minister was due to announce by the end of the month whether he would call for an MMC investigation.

Capel quits as L&N broker

By Michael Tate

In a dramatic new twist at London and Northern, the company's stockbroker, James Capel, abruptly resigned yesterday following disagreement over the handling of a placing of shares in Tace, a related company.

In a terse, one-line statement Capel announced that it had "resigned as brokers to London and Northern Group and Tace with immediate effect."

The announcement came

only hours after L&N revealed that it had arranged to place the bulk of its 30.5 per cent shareholding in Tace with institutional investors through Sheppards, a rival broking firm. Sheppards was L&N's broker until Capel was appointed last summer.

A spokesman for Capel claimed later that the broker had offered specific advice on the placing, which had not been taken. He said it was a step which Capel found "quite unacceptable."

The share placing, which involves 19.4 per cent of the Tace share capital, raised £6.52 million, which L&N will use to reduce its short-term debt. It will retain the rest of its holding, representing 11.4 per cent of Tace.

The shares have been placed at 460p, 15p below yesterday's stock market price. Shareholders in L&N will have the opportunity to subscribe for them at that price on the basis of one share for every 77 L&N held.

Counting the cost of Guinness

£1½m payoff at Morgan

By Our Banking Correspondent

Morgan Grenfell Group, the merchant banking and securities house, yesterday announced a 20 per cent increase in pretax profits for 1986 and revealed that its former chief executive and the co-head of corporate finance, who both resigned in January, received more than £500,000 in severance compensation.

The rise in group profits, to £82 million, was slightly less than the stock market had expected because of losses of about £5.5 million on a holding of seven million Guinness shares and a £2.5 million deficit on US securities operations.

The Guinness shareholding was built up during the drinks group's bid for Distillers last year, but the value of the shares fell sharply after the Department of Trade and Industry announced its investigation into the bid. Since Morgan's year-end of December 31, the shares have almost regained the level they held before the investigation.

As a result of the investigation and subsequent events,



Catto: most traumatic time in the company's history.

man, said that the second half of last year had been the most traumatic in the company's history, but that Morgan was continuing with its strategy of building an international securities house.

Mr David Ewart, the finance director, said that the group's results had also been affected by about £15 million in development costs and dealing losses involved in setting up the new securities operation. The group has written off £66 million in goodwill in the acquisitions of Pember & Boyle, Pinchin Denny and CJ Lawrence, which form crucial parts of MG Securities. The primary gilt-edged market-making operation suffered a £1 million loss between October and the year-end.

Corporate finance continued to generate a substantial proportion of group profits.

Earnings per share, before dilution from last year's share issue, rose by 9 per cent to 39.2p. The group has decided to pay a 10.5p dividend, an increase of 23.5 per cent over the estimated dividend for last year had the new shares existed at that time.

Lord Catto, the group chair-

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Channel Island life

Some curious last minute machinations have been going on between the shareholders of Marketing and Acquisition Consultants — the Jersey nominee company to which the old Guinness team paid £5.2 million. Last month — just before the Royal Court in Jersey ordered the company to say who now had the loot — two-thirds of the shares changed hands. One-third went to European Trust Co, Isle of Man, while the other went to the Swiss-sounding Deyn Trust Ltd. Michael Dea, managing director of M & A Consultants, tells me that the move was "a safeguard in case Guinness tried to sue me personally — even though I don't think it is very likely." After a traumatic few months, he adds, optimistically, "I hope I can fade from the limelight now."



Bench mark

It could only happen in America. Herbert Marant has applied to the US Securities Exchange Commission for a licence to run an investment counselling business from his Colorado prison cell. Marant, a former businessman serving life for organizing the contract killing of his ex-wife in 1981, has had his application refused — but not, it would seem, without some soul-searching deliberation. "While not unkind of his desire to build a future for himself while still in prison," says the SEC, "the major concern is whether he can be trusted to adhere to the high standard of conduct required to be an investment adviser."

Greedy Nigel

A reduction in basic rate income tax to 27 per cent would still have been too much for eighteenth century naval surgeon John Knyveton. In his diary for January 12, 1795, he wrote: "The rapacity and greed of the Government goes beyond all limits. It is now actually proposing to place a tax on income! Those with £100 to £105 a year to pay a 40th part and beyond £200 a tenth. It is a vile, Jacobin trumped-up Jack-in-the-box impertinence. Is a true Briton to have no privacy? Are the fruits of his labour and toil to be picked over farthing by farthing by pimply minions of bureaucracy?"

Could it be that the Stock Exchange is a slingshot payer? Only a week after long-serving press officer Luke Glass left for a similar job with BOC, Lynton Jones, the head of public affairs at the Stock Exchange, has handed in his notice. He is joining the US securities body NASD — the National Association of Securities Dealers — as its European executive dealer, based in London. "Of course I am going for more money," he says. "You wouldn't expect me to leave for less."

Crystal gazing

Waterford, the Irish glass-to-Wedgwood china group, has won a £1 million order to supply a palace in the Middle Eastern state of Qatar with no less than 38 lead crystal chandeliers and a collection of matching wall lamps. It hopes to now win an additional £300,000 contract with the same palace for a 300 place porcelain dinner service. But when it comes to giving away its wares for free, the company is almost as generous. It gave a magnificent hand-painted dinner service, worth £10,000, to the Prince and Princess of Wales and, more recently, a model glass replica of the Statue of Liberty to President Reagan and a glass tennis racket to Boris Becker. The latter two were the work of the company's master craftsman, a Czech by the name of Miroslav Havel, who moved to Waterford after the war. The locals find his name so unpronounceable that they call him Paddy for short. And, according to local folklore, he spent two years teaching Waterford children geometry before he could even speak English.

Carol Leonard

ECONOMIC VIEW

Drawing a new baseline for fiscal policy realism

Disappointing on tax reform, the Chancellor's Budget on Tuesday nevertheless contained the most important developments in fiscal and monetary policy since the Government's medium-term financial strategy was born seven years ago.

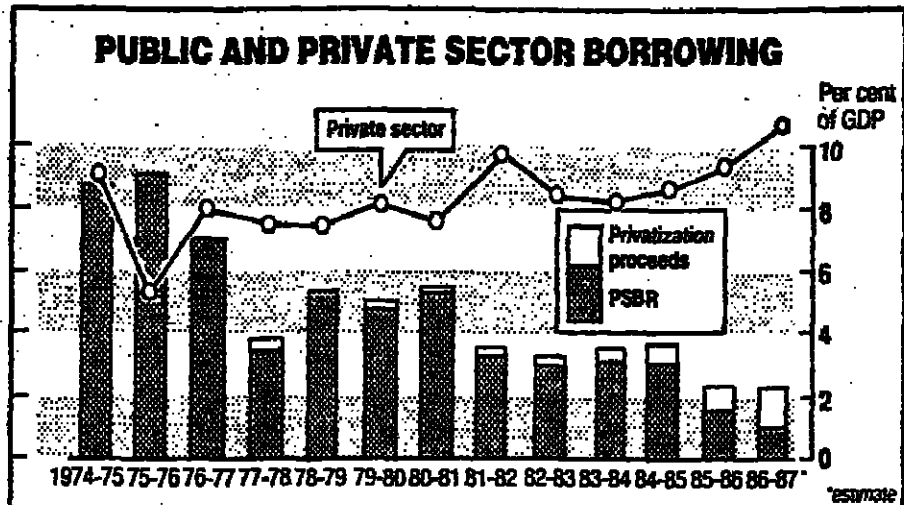
Mr Lawson revealed both a defeat and a triumph. For the coming financial year, the Government has finally given up the struggle of setting targets for its favoured measure of broad money, sterling M3. There was no great surprise, and the Budget Red Book contained the expected ritual words that "the rate of growth in broad money cannot be ignored, and the Government will continue to take it into account in assessing monetary conditions."

Nevertheless, this marks the end of a lengthy experiment in monetary targets dating back to the time when Mr Denis Healey first introduced targets for the money supply. Important information about what the Government expects the trend to be in the growth of broad money will be lost.

On fiscal policy, too, we have reached the end of a chapter. But the story here is a much happier one.

A crucial element of the MTFPS from the beginning has been a steady reduction in government borrowing. On Tuesday, the Chancellor told us that he judged this process to be complete. At 1 per cent of GDP, or £3.9 billion for 1987-88, the public sector borrowing requirement was low enough and the Government would not attempt to cut it further.

This is important from several points of view. For fiscal expansionists who have always argued the reduction in borrowing — most recently in a letter to the *Financial Times* from five former government chief economic



advisers — it at least provides a solid floor from which they can go on arguing for refutation. For tax-cutters it means that, other things being equal, any scope for fiscal adjustment in the years to come can be applied to reducing the burden of taxation. And for those favouring a balanced budget it means the end of any hopes they may have had that this Government's gradual reduction in the PSBR would finally reach zero.

Some of the thinking behind the choice of 1 per cent of GDP as the final resting place of the PSBR was set out in Mr Lawson's speech to the Lombard Association last April.

"There is, of course, no scientific formula for determining the 'right' size of the PSBR," Mr Lawson said. "But in practice there are very real constraints on how much it is prudent to borrow. In the first place, over the medium and longer term, it is clearly important that the amount of public debt, and the burden this imposes, should not rise as a proportion of the economy as a whole."

At a level of 1 per cent of GDP, the PSBR would not add to the total stock of public

debt in relation to the size of the economy even at zero inflation. Assuming a reasonable rate of growth in GDP, the ratio of debt to GDP would diminish. Inflation devalues the stock of public debt in real terms, making it easier to run a high PSBR and still keep the debt/GDP ratio in bounds, so it is important to assume that the Government achieves its ultimate aim for inflation.

In figures it works out roughly like this. If nominal GDP is about £400 billion and the economy is growing at 2½ per cent, then, with zero inflation, GDP will be £410 billion in a year's time. The stock of public debt is about 45 per cent of GDP, or £180 billion.

So PSBR could rise by 45 per cent of £10 billion, or £4.5 billion. This is rather more than the level of £3.9 billion which next year's PSBR is actually set.

The second important condition set by Mr Lawson in his Lombard speech was that it should be possible to finance the PSBR comfortably in a non-inflationary way. Present circumstances suggest that

this should present no problem.

The effect of the fall in public-sector demands for credit is illustrated in the diagram derived from the Red Book. Falling public-sector borrowing has provided greater scope for private-sector borrowers to tap the markets. The result is what the Chancellor describes as "crowding in" — in other words, the reverse of the situation during the 1970s when the demands of the Government tended to crowd out private-sector borrowers.

The 1 per cent floor is for the PSBR and does not take into account financing available from privatization proceeds. When privatization proceeds are added back, the call on the markets is more than double that from the PSBR alone. This is a better measure of the fiscal stance in any one year than the PSBR alone.

But privatization proceeds will gradually fall as the last sticks of furniture are sold off. Mr Lawson confirmed yesterday that proceeds would not rise above £5 billion a year in future.

The history of the scope for tax cuts in this year's Budget should serve as a reminder that the numbers in the MTFPS are only aspirations. It emerged yesterday that the Treasury forecasters were expecting the PSBR to turn out above target this year as late as the Autumn Statement in November. Instead it is now expected to come in £3 billion below target.

While castigating the Budget in public, the Labour party, too, may in private applaud the Chancellor's decision to opt for caution.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

TEMPUS

United Biscuits strong but US cookie crumbles

Disappointment with United Biscuits' performance in the United States is the most likely reason for the market's failure to respond positively to what are excellent results.

After all not many companies in mature markets can show such consistent growth in profits and earnings as UB.

Gradually improving market share and the introduction of new brands have been important in UB's 1986 performance. But of even greater significance in producing last year's 23 per cent rise in pretax profits to £125.2 million on virtually static turnover have been steady gains in efficiency.

Half of the profit rise was due to widening margins on sales. The trading margin rose from 6.4 per cent in 1985 to 7.1 per cent in 1986 due to productivity gains.

The other half was the result of lower interest charges as gearing dropped from 33 per cent to 21 per cent, despite capital expenditure of £125 million. And the company was able to achieve a 22 per cent return on capital employed compared with only 19 per cent in 1985, while return on equity rose 29 per cent.

In the US, Keebler has been fighting its corner in the so-called "cookie war" against rivals Nabisco and Procter and Gamble. Last year it managed just 13 per cent growth in profits in dollar terms, which translated into 2.5 per cent in sterling terms.

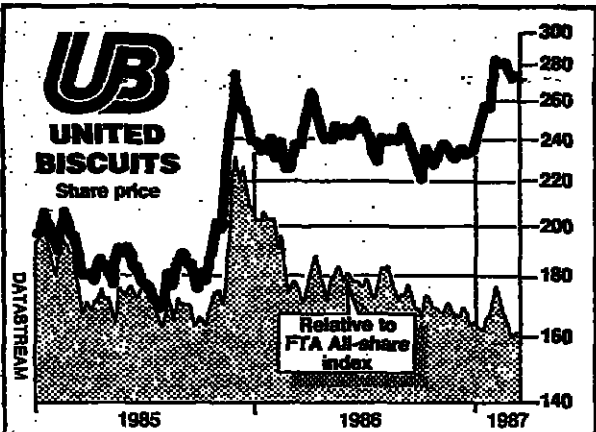
Future growth is likely to come from growth in crisps, nuts and savoury snacks, especially in Europe and the US. The restaurant business, Wimpy and Pizzaland, should show steady growth also.

Food specialist Robert Brand at Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker, believes UB should make £142 million pretax next year. For once, all of this improvement will come through to earnings per share putting the shares on an undemanding prospective multiple of not quite 12.

Remarkably, there has been very little takeover talk since Imperial went to Hanson. Perhaps the predators see little extra juice to come from an orange which is already being squeezed hard by its own management.

Turner & Newall

Turner & Newall has been issuing so much paper since last May that it almost rivals confetti at a wedding. First it was the May one-for-four rights issue. Then it was shares for the AE acquisition. Now it is another rights issue to take the issued capital to 256 million shares.



But the net effect of raising £71.7 million will be an immediate reduction in gearing from 59 per cent — an uncomfortably high level reached because of the AE fight — to the 40 per cent mark, and it will give Turner fresh room to move on investment and acquisitions.

Now that the group has won the battle for AE, it is a matter of waiting for the benefits to flow through. Whatever the uncertain outlook for the British car industry, and the threat of possible Japanese component manufacturing operations in the United Kingdom, AE should be good for £43 million at the trading level in 1987, which will swell the enlarged Turner group to fresh heights.

The outcome for the year ended December, with AE taken in for only three weeks, was a group pretax profit of £44.7 million against £39.6 million, with all divisions, except the Zimbabwe mines, moving ahead. There was a net credit from insurers of £1.8 million from asbestos-related claims (£2.3 million previously), and the return on capital employed improved from 17.9 per cent to 20 per cent.

One disappointment was the dip in net earnings a share because of the higher capital to be served, but dividends rose, and should rise again this year and next, and the financial calculations of the latest rights issue suggest there will be no earnings dilution in 1987. Interest savings should add £6 million to profits, and the conservative estimate of this year's profits is £78.5 million, with £90.7 million in sight for 1988.

Once AE is fully digested, Turner must be expected to pay increased attention to the United States. Meanwhile, the United Kingdom contribution to profits accounts for 48 per cent of the operating, cake, and given lower interest rates the order book looks good.

The shares were 11p easier at 230p on results, where they offer a prospective price earnings ratio of 9.8 on a fully diluted basis and a prospective yield of 5.1 per cent. Those with patience should

yet find Turner & Newall a rewarding hold.

News Corp

The recent issue of News International's special dividend shares represents a "window of investment opportunity," according to a new report on Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation published by Kleinwort Greaveson, the stockbroker. Kleinwort's media analyst, Luke Johnson, believes that each special dividend share, representing four News Corporation ordinary shares, should stand at a 20 per cent discount to the ordinary shares, rather than the 44 per cent discount they stand on at present.

Mr Johnson's enthusiasm extends to News Corporation as a whole, which he describes as "the most dynamic media enterprise in the world." Such high rates of growth cannot be achieved without borrowing and Mr Johnson calculates that gearing is a staggering 258 per cent. "However, virtually none of the debt is secured," he says.

For the year to June 30, 1987, he is forecasting net income of Aus\$380 million (£161 million) to give earnings per share of Aus\$1.35. At the current share price of Aus\$22.70, the prospective multiple is just under 17.

Rivkin-James Capel, the Australian arm of the stockbroker James Capel, agrees. Its Australian analyst, Rod Clarkson, is less ambitious for this year's earnings. He is forecasting Aus\$1.17, implying a prospective multiple of 19. "But this is not very expensive for media stocks in the US, or anywhere else these days," he says.

But he is looking for much faster growth than Kleinwort, and both brokers agree that net income in 1989 will approach Aus\$600 million, when the multiple will fall to 12.3.

He identifies News Corporation as a company which has successfully made the transition from being an upstart local Australian stock into a highly-rated multinational corporation.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Morgan Grenfell ready for the next round

Morgan Grenfell yesterday made a passable impression of a bank picking itself up off the floor. A few weeks ago, reeling from its involvement with Guinness, this vigorous contender for the merchant banking crown, seemed unlikely to beat the count. But having soaked up heavy punishment, Morgan's eyes have cleared, the legs look stronger and it has a better idea where its corner is.

The bank's failure to meet original profit expectations stems directly from its troubles. Had there been no Department of Trade investigation it would not have shown a huge paper loss on its 7 million Guinness shares. Now the shares have risen again, more or less wiping out the loss, and they may well show a profit within weeks.

The Catto Committee has handed in its report on Morgan's management structure to the Bank of England and crucial management changes have been made. Younger men now have more say, management reporting systems have been tightened up and the "star system" — now discredited but until the gaff was blown the golden source of the bank's teeming profits and its envied status in the City — appears to have been abandoned.

There is still an air of caution about the place, but a feeling too that Morgan has returned to the fold of official favour. "We believe we now have the support of the Bank of England," Sir Peter Carey ventured yesterday.

The Bank's approval, needless to say, is an essential element of Morgan's recovery since its disapproval had led directly to the resignation of Christopher Reeves, the former chief executive, and Graham Walsh, head of corporate finance, only two months earlier.

No one can be certain how long the fall-out from the Guinness and Geoffrey Collier affairs will last, but Morgan is optimistically making no provision for legal liability if one of the many parties involved decides to sue. Morgan insists that it has lost no business because of the high profile activities of Mr Collier and Roger Seelig, who was the first to depart, though a possible downturn in corporate finance activity generally this year may make good business harder to find any way. That could accelerate the inevitable change in emphasis of the group as securities contribute a greater proportion of profits and corporate finance — still making about 40 per cent of overall profits — less.

So far, Morgan's securities operations do not look bad in comparison with those of the clearing banks. A total cost of about £15 million for development and trading losses after Big Bang is not excessive. MG Securities insists that it has been more than covering its costs since October and has captured about 9 per cent of equity market turnover. It is also gradually adding to its range of traded stocks just when a number of competitors are reducing theirs.

Nonetheless Morgan's success as a securities house is not guaranteed. The tide may be starting to turn its way again, but memories in the City are long. Morgan made life more complex for everyone by playing fast and loose with the takeover rules and committed the unpardonable sin of being found out. It won few friends and the ranks of its admirers have thinned.

But it is far from being a lost cause. Much depends on who is chosen for the central job of chief executive. He will need wide experience of both banking and securities, a reputation for dynamism and probity and a great deal of patience. No wonder the bank is taking its time finding him.

Lawson at the Gallup

When unanimity breaks out in the City and, in particular, unanimity about a Nigel Lawson Budget, beware. (The Chancellor, I am glad to report, is in robust health). There was plenty in the Budget for the gilt market, if a little less than the equity market might have wished for and the City's response, expressed in a torrent of circulars, was good, though not uniformly so.

The first prize goes to Goldman Sachs, not for analysis of Budget changes (Deloitte's splendid breakfast seminar at the Savoy led the field in this category), but for a list of Government Gallup Poll ratings before and after all Budgets since 1949. All Nigel Lawson's Budgets have been unpopular.

Last year, there was a 3½-point drop in the Government's poll rating; in 1985, a 6½-point fall; in 1984, a decline of 5 points.

Only once has the Conservatives' rating improved after a Budget under Mrs Thatcher: in 1982, when the Falklands War clouded the figures.

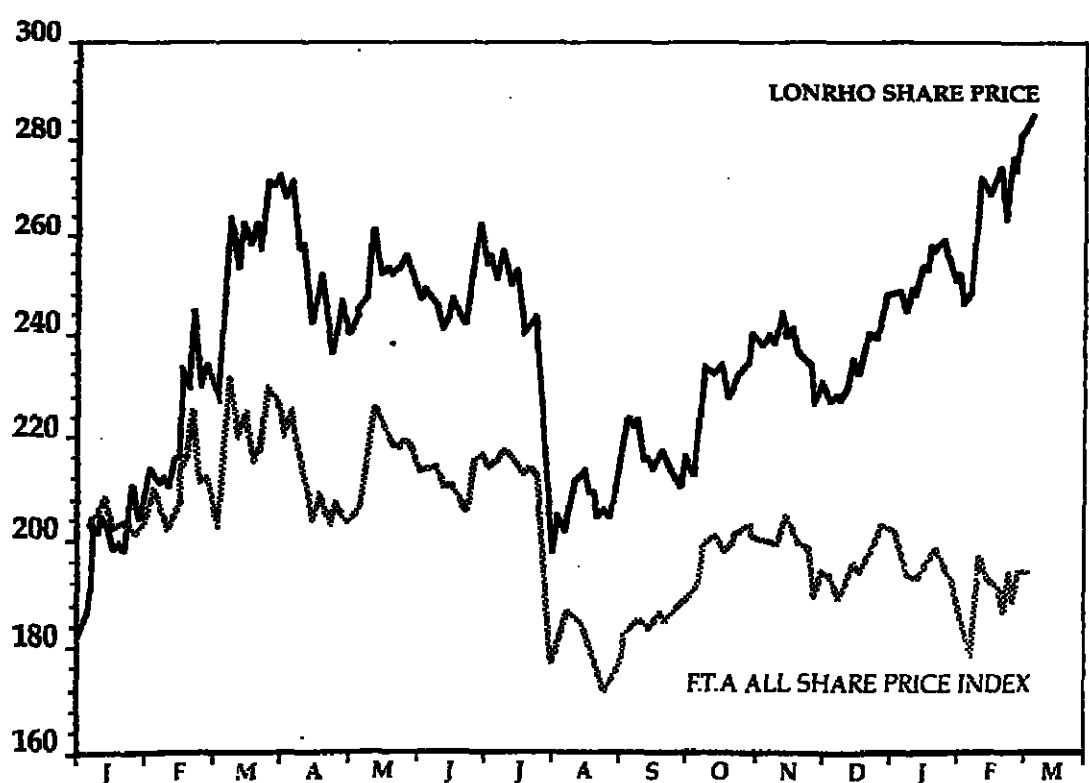
Unless the Chancellor's latest effort changes the sequence, the cosy, if rather fragile, link from low public-sector borrowing to interest-rate reductions might be broken. The Japanese buyers who have piled into the gilt market would find good reason to move out again somewhat sharply.

The pound would have an attack of the vapours and the prospect of a long, hot summer before an October general election would not be pleasing to the market. Yesterday's half-point cut in interest rates betrayed a proper caution while leaving the market in delicious anticipation of another half point, perhaps next week. At least there was no new tap issue.

It is better to travel hopefully than to arrive and as long as more rate cuts are in prospect, the gilt market will not get into difficulties. But whether, for both political and economic reasons, there is life for base rates below 9.5 per cent is the interesting question.

LONRHO

Share price performance relative to the F.T.A All Share Index



PERIOD JAN 1986 — MARCH 1987

HIGH 285.00p 5 MARCH 1987

LOW 182.72p 2 JAN 1986

Source: Datastream

Lonrho Plc, Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BL

COMPANY NEWS

● **POWELL DUFFRYN:** The company has agreed to acquire Radiant Superjet from Norcross for £475,000 in cash. Radiant has a turnover of about £1.6 million, mainly in Britain, in the design and manufacture of oil and gas burners for commercial boilers.

● **PACIFIC SALES ORGANISATION:** Interim dividend 1p (same). Turnover for the six months to December 31 £2.69 million (£2.75 million). Pretax profit £405,000 (£526,000). Earnings per share 5.18p (6.34p).

● **EARLYS OF WITNEY:** Agreement has been reached for the sale of the company's freehold land in Witney, Oxfordshire, for £1.65 million. The original purchase, with a book value of £65,000, comprises about 7.69 acres. No profit is derived from the property. The net sale proceeds, taking into account the cost of the additional land, are expected to be about £1.6 million.

● **RENESEW:** Six months to December 31. Interim dividend 0.8p (0.7p). Net turnover £10.18 million (£8.49 million). Pretax profit £4.19 million (£2.21 million). Earnings per share 9.06p (5.03p). The directors are confident of prospects and the considerable potential of products being introduced to the market this year.

● **TOWN & CITY PROPERTIES:** A portfolio of 19 properties has been bought from the Iraq Petroleum Pension Fund for about £7 million; these comprise office, retail and industrial properties throughout Britain with a gross income of just under £700,000.

● **LINCROFT KILGOUR:** Year to September 30. On December 1, 1986, control of the company passed to Priest Mariani Holdings. No final dividend is recommended as the cash alternative of 34.5p per share ordinary share paid by Priest included allowance for the intended final of 5.5p. Turnover £8.6 million (£8.19 million). Pretax profit £1.37 million (£1.34 million). Earnings per share 21.4p (19.4p).

● **JAMES FISHER & SONS:** Total dividend cut to 2p (3.3p) for 1986. Turnover £32.3 million (£39.6 million). Profit, before tax and extraordinary charges, £2.6 million (£3.0 million). Tax £1.28 million (£1.44 million). Extraordinary charge, net of tax, £818,000 (£1.18 million). Earnings per share 5.57p (6.71p). The board looks forward to achieving an improvement in pretax profit in 1987.

● **LM ERICSSON:** Income, before appropriations and tax, for 1986 911 million krona (£90.5 million), against 878 million krona. Net sales 31,644 million krona (32,496 million krona). Total investments in property, plant and equipment in 1986 fell to 1,643 million krona (2,677 million krona), of which 858 million krona (1,360 million krona) was in Sweden.

● **AMERIT INTERNATIONAL:** Turnover for 1986 £2.09 million (£2.53 million). Pretax loss £1.4 million (£1.12 million). Loss per share 6.5p (5.34p).

● **CATALYST COMMUNICATIONS:** Conditional agreement has been reached for the purchase of Peter Miles and Partners and its affiliated companies. The initial consideration is £900,000 in 2.25 million new ordinary shares. A further consideration, up to a maximum of £1 million, will be payable depending on profitability. The Peter Miles Group is a leader in the contract sales area.

● **UNIDARE:** Total dividend for 1986 1.5p (10p). Pretax profit £23.83 million (£23.5 million). Earnings per share 23.2p (18.42p).

● **HUGHES FOOD GROUP:** The group is to buy a business, packaging plant in Selby, Yorkshire and has acquired a 51 per cent stake in Iddowes, a potato-chip manufacturer in Bradford, West Yorkshire. It has also purchased Danepak's 1.5-acre food-processing facility for an undisclosed sum. The group paid £100,000 cash for its stake in Iddowes.

● **METALBOX:** Total dividend for 1986 2.63p (2.22p). Comparisons restated. Turnover £38.78 million (£37.07 million). Pretax profit £4.16 million (£3.67 million). Earnings per share 7.04p (5.99p). The board proposes a one-for-ten scrip issue.

● **SUTER:** Total dividend unchanged at 4.2p for 1986. Turnover £134.4 million (£110 million). Pretax profit £14.9 million (£9.5 million). Tax £4.2 million (£3.3 million). Extraordinary debit £3.5 million (nil). Earnings per share, fully diluted, 14.7p (11.0p, adjusted).

● **AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL:** Final dividend 10 cents (15 cents) for 1986. Pretax operating profit Aus\$4.55 million (£1.95 million), against Aus\$5 million. Sales revenue Aus\$23.97 million (Aus\$24.34 million). Earnings per share 15.9 cents (19.3 cents).

● **FRAWLTY WHITING HOLDINGS:** Dividend 8p (7p) for 1986. Turnover £34.49 million (£26.16 million). Pretax profit £23.3 million (£3.52 million). Earnings per share 38.2p (31p).

● **BROAD STREET GROUP:** Final dividend of 1.1p for the year to October 31. Turnover £7.09 million (£4.08 million). Pretax profit £990,000 (£226,000). Earnings per share 2.45p (0.42p).

● **SAVAGE GROUP:** Dividend of 1.5p for the six months to December 31. Turnover £7.08 million (£4.21 million). Pretax profit £476,000 (£29,000). Earnings per share 3.7p (0.1p).

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	90.45	90.49	90.27	90.32	508
Mar 87	90.35	91.03	90.97	91.03	734
Mar 87	91.16	91.23	91.07	91.23	941
Mar 87	91.08	91.24	91.08	91.24	387
Mar 87	90.97	91.06	90.97	91.06	2
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0

Previous day's total open interest 24769

Three Month Eurodollar	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	92.59	92.63	92.59	92.61	3075
Mar 87	92.60	92.64	92.59	92.62	695
Mar 87	92.64	92.67	92.64	92.66	64
Mar 87	92.62	92.65	92.62	92.64	80
Mar 87	92.65	92.66	92.65	92.66	25
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0

Previous day's total open interest 20815

US Treasury Bond	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	102.00	102.02	102.00	102.04	257
Mar 87	102.03	102.05	102.03	102.05	238
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0

Previous day's total open interest 3380

Short GRN	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0

Previous day's total open interest 19080

Long GRN	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	125.25	125.00	125.15	125.04	70
Mar 87	125.00	125.15	125.15	125.11	40803
Mar 87	125.02	125.04	125.02	125.09	215
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0

Previous day's total open interest 19080

FT-SE 100	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	202.30	202.50	201.00	201.10	516
Mar 87	202.50	202.50	201.10	201.10	274
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0
Mar 87	NT	NT	NT	NT	0

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Series	Call	Put	Call	Put	Call	Put
Allied Lyons (1985)	330	72	80	90	1	3
British Gas (1987)	300	43	55	65	3	10
British Airways (1984)	110	15	21	25	1	8
BP (1981)	600	55	67	107	22	40
Com Gold (1984)	700	147	167	180	2	7
Courageux (1980)	330	75	82	93	1	5
Cos Union (1982)	330	11	25	40	24	25
Cable & Wire (1985)	350	16	25	40	24	25
GE (1981)	220	20	31	40	2	9
Grand Met (1987)	420	73	85	90	1	6
ICI (1982)	1300	43	55	65	3	10
Land Securities (1980)	350	27	38	50	5	11
Maria & Spen (1980)	220	33	38	45	2	4
Mar 87	220	18	24	30	4	10
Mar 87	240	8	14	20	17	24

March 18, 1987. Total contracts 64806. Calls 32845. Puts 11661.

Series	Call	Put	Call	Put	Call	Put
Shell Trans (1987)	1100	150	180	8	25	38
Transatlantic House (1980)	300	55	65	74	2	11
TSB (1982)	70	14	15	18	1	6
Wegworth (1984)	700	140	150	165	1	4
Beacham (1982)	420	133	143	150	1	2
Boots (1986)	300	29	33	38	2	14
BTR (1988)	300	30	40	52	1	9
Bass (1981)	800	145	155	165	5	13
Blue Circle (1987)	650	113	133	145	8	15
De Beers (1986)	950	180	175	220	1	20
Dixons (1987)	321	67	82	96	2	4
GKN (1982)	280	52	53	61	4	9
Glaxo (1979)	1500	75	160	210	2	55
Mar 87	1500	75	160	210	2	55
Mar 87	1600	85	140	30	140	170

Underlying security prices. FT-SE Index: 202.30. Puts: 107.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Market rates	Market rates	Market rates
1 month	1 month	1 month
3 months	3 months	3 months
6 months	6 months	6 months
12 months	12 months	12 months
1 year	1 year	1 year
2 years	2 years	2 years
3 years	3 years	3 years
4 years	4 years	4 years
5 years	5 years	5 years
6 years	6 years	6 years
7 years	7 years	7 years
8 years	8 years	8 years
9 years	9 years	9 years
10 years	10 years	10 years
11 years	11 years	11 years
12 years	12 years	12 years
13 years	13 years	13 years
14 years	14 years	14 years
15 years	15 years	15 years
16 years	16 years	16 years
17 years	17 years	17 years
18 years	18 years	18 years
19 years	19 years	19 years
20 years	20 years	20 years
21 years	21 years	21 years
22 years	22 years	22 years
23 years	23 years	23 years
24 years	24 years	24 years
25 years	25 years	25 years
26 years	26 years	26 years
27 years	27 years	27 years
28 years	28 years	28 years
29 years	29 years	29 years
30 years	30 years	30 years

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 72.8 (day's range 72.8-72.8).

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Clearing Rates %	Clearing Rates %	Clearing Rates %
1 month	1 month	1 month
3 months	3 months	3 months
6 months	6 months	6 months
12 months	12 months	12 months
1 year	1 year	1 year
2 years	2 years	2 years
3 years	3 years	3 years
4 years	4 years	4 years
5 years	5 years	5 years
6 years	6 years	6 years
7 years	7 years	7 years
8 years	8 years	8 years
9 years	9 years	9 years
10 years	10 years	10 years
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15 years	15 years	15 years
16 years	16 years	16 years
17 years	17 years	17 years
18 years	18 years	18 years
19 years	19 years	19 years
20 years	20 years	20 years
21 years	21 years	21 years
22 years	22 years	22 years
23 years	23 years	23 years
24 years	24 years	24 years
25 years	25 years	25 years
26 years	26 years	26 years
27 years	27 years	27 years
28 years	28 years	28 years
29 years	29 years	29 years
30 years	30 years	30 years

Gold: \$444.25-444.75. Underlying security prices. FT-SE Index: 202.30. Puts: 107.

Other Sterling Rates	Dollar Spot Rates
1 month	1 month
3 months	3 months
6 months	6 months
12 months	12 months
1 year	1 year
2 years	2 years
3 years	3 years
4 years	4 years
5 years	5 years
6 years	6 years
7 years	7 years
8 years	8 years
9 years	9 years
10 years	10 years
11 years	11 years
12 years	12 years
13 years	13 years
14 years	14 years
15 years	15 years
16 years	16 years
17 years	17 years
18 years	18 years
19 years	19 years
20 years	20 years
21 years	21 years
22 years	22 years
23 years	23 years
24 years	24 years
25 years	25 years
26 years	26 years
27 years	27 years
28 years	28 years
29 years	29 years
30 years	30 years

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOPEX and Ecol.

RECENT ISSUES

Equities	Equities	Equities
1 month	1 month	1 month
3 months	3 months	3 months
6 months	6 months	6 months
12 months	12 months	12 months
1 year	1 year	1 year
2 years	2 years	2 years
3 years	3 years	3 years
4 years	4 years	4 years
5 years	5 years	5 years
6 years	6 years	6 years
7 years	7 years	7 years
8 years	8 years	8 years
9 years	9 years	9 years
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19 years	19 years	19 years
20 years	20 years	20 years
21 years	21 years	21 years
22 years	22 years	22 years
23 years	23 years	23 years
24 years	24 years	24 years
25 years	25 years	25 years
26 years	26 years	26 years
27 years	27 years	27 years
28 years	28 years	28 years
29 years	29 years	29 years
30 years	30 years	30 years

Underlying security prices. FT-SE Index: 202.30. Puts: 107.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

40	1	3	1	LASMO	180	65	70	74	3	6	7
20	1	3	1	(241)	200	45	50	57	4	8	10
40	1	3	1		220	75	80	87	9	15	17
15	1	2	10								
15	1	2	10								
68	4	1	25	Midland Bank	650	95	107	117	8	12	33
40	1	25	37	(1980)	650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
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30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
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30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	25	40	40
30	4	9	9		650	55	67	85	2		

Portfolio
—Gold—

**Claims required for
+36 points**

**Claims required for
+36 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 9. Dealings end tomorrow. §Contango day next Monday. Settlement day March 30.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes alpha stocks, volumes are on page 25.

15	Alfred King	253	25	4	801	74
16	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
17	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
18	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
19	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
20	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
21	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
22	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
23	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
24	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
25	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
26	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
27	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
28	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
29	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
30	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
31	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
32	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
33	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
34	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
35	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
36	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
37	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
38	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
39	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
40	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
41	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
42	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
43	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
44	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
45	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
46	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
47	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
48	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
49	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74
50	Alvin Karpis (Alvin)	253	25	4	801	74

ELECTRICALS							
136	185	AB Elect	450	457	7.7	3.4	22.1
137	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
138	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
139	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
140	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
141	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
142	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
143	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
144	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
145	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
146	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
147	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
148	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
149	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3
150	120	Acme	180	187	1.7	0.8	18.3

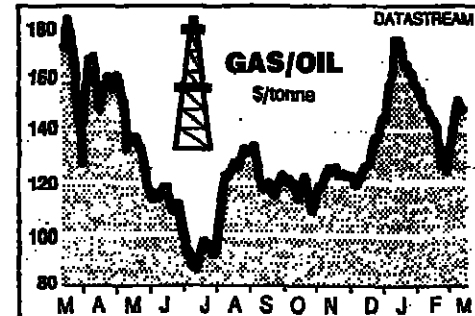
[illegible][illegible]

of Pakistan (20)	165	130	44	5.1	6.2	16.1
Spain (1)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (2)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (3)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (4)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (5)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (6)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (7)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (8)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (9)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (10)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (11)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (12)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (13)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (14)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (15)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (16)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (17)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (18)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (19)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (20)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (21)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (22)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (23)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (24)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (25)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (26)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (27)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (28)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (29)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (30)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (31)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (32)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (33)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (34)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (35)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (36)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (37)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (38)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (39)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (40)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (41)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (42)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (43)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (44)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (45)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (46)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (47)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (48)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (49)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (50)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (51)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (52)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (53)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (54)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (55)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (56)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (57)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (58)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (59)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (60)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (61)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (62)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (63)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (64)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (65)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (66)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (67)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (68)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (69)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (70)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (71)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (72)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (73)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (74)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (75)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (76)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (77)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (78)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (79)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (80)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (81)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (82)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (83)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (84)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (85)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (86)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (87)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (88)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (89)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (90)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (91)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (92)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (93)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (94)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (95)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (96)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (97)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (98)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (99)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (100)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (101)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (102)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (103)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (104)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (105)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (106)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (107)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (108)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (109)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (110)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (111)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (112)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (113)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (114)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (115)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (116)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (117)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (118)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (119)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (120)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (121)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (122)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (123)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (124)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (125)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (126)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (127)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (128)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (129)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (130)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (131)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (132)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (133)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (134)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (135)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (136)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (137)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (138)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (139)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (140)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (141)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (142)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (143)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (144)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (145)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (146)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (147)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (148)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (149)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (150)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (151)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (152)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (153)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (154)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (155)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (156)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (157)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (158)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (159)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (160)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (161)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (162)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (163)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (164)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (165)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (166)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (167)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (168)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (169)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (170)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (171)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (172)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (173)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (174)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (175)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (176)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (177)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (178)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (179)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (180)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (181)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (182)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (183)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (184)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (185)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (186)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (187)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (188)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (189)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (190)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (191)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (192)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (193)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (194)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (195)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (196)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (197)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (198)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (199)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (200)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (201)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (202)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (203)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (204)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (205)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (206)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (207)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (208)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (209)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (210)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (211)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (212)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (213)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (214)	100	100		9.3	4.7	8.0
Spain (215)	10					

	5/17	5/21	%	10.4	3.5	13.5
B&W (est)	123	133				
Control	240	240	+6	10.0	4.0	9.7

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Vol		Bid	Offer	Chng	Vol		Bid	Offer	Chng	Vol		Bid	Offer	Chng	Vol
ASSET UNIT TRUST MANAGERS																			
ABF Investment Ltd, Bournemouth BH10 5AL																			
Ork & Peel	115.5	120.0	+17.7	2.89															
High Income Equity	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Income	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Income	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Income	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
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High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
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High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
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High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
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High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
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High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
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High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Income	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Income	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															
High Income Growth	117.0	121.0	+17.4	0.00															

	2nd Offer	Orig	Yld		2nd Offer	Orig	Yld
IRA OF CREDITORS				REMARK INVESTMENT UNIT TRUST			
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	115	115	115	115
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	116	116	116	116
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	117	117	117	117
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	118	118	118	118
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	119	119	119	119
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	120	120	120	120
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	121	121	121	121
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	122	122	122	122
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	123	123	123	123
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	124	124	124	124
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	125	125	125	125
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	126	126	126	126
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	127	127	127	127
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	128	128	128	128
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	129	129	129	129
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	130	130	130	130
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	131	131	131	131
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	132	132	132	132
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	133	133	133	133
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	134	134	134	134
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	135	135	135	135
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	136	136	136	136
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	137	137	137	137
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	138	138	138	138
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	139	139	139	139
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	140	140	140	140
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	141	141	141	141
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	142	142	142	142
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	143	143	143	143
Amr & Gen Trust	288.7	285.76	+0.8	144	144	144	144
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Gasoil prices remain relatively firm due to Opec production presently running over 1 million barrels per day under the quota of 15.8 million. However, heavy chart resistance remains around \$150 on Gasoil and \$19 on crude oil prices.

July	1265-294	Tone	
Aug	1270-273		
Sept	1250-280	SILVER SMALL	
Nov	1320-316	Cash	345.00
Dec	1316-336	Three Months	354.00
Jan	1375-370		
Feb	1340		
SOYABEAN			
Apr	127.0-69	ALUMINUM	
May	114.0-13.5	Cash	834.00
Aug	110.0-10.0	Three Months	789.00
Oct	110.0-10.0	Vol	
Nov	110.0-10.0	Vol	Barely Sold
Dec	112.5-12.3		
Feb	117.0-15.0	NICKEL	
Mar	118.0-12.5	Cash	2315
Vol	100	Three Months	2345
		Vol	
		Tone	
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
Unofficial prices			
Official Transfer Prices			
Price in £ per metric tonne			
Silver in ounce per troy ounce			
Official West & Co. Ltd. report			
COPPER GRADE A			
Cash	509.50-507.50	+0.10; Caths.	514.00 per kg
Three Months	509.50-507.50	+0.10; Caths.	509.50 per kg
Vol	2500	+0.10; Caths.	509.50 per kg
Tone	Barely Sold	+0.10; Caths. 509.50 per kg	
STANDARD CATHODES			
Cash	512.00-520.00	+0.10; Caths. 512.00 per kg	
Three Months	512.00-520.00	+0.10; Caths. 512.00 per kg	
Vol	Nil	+0.10; Caths. 512.00 per kg	
Tone	Nil	+0.10; Caths. 512.00 per kg	
LEAD			
Cash	305.00-308.00	+0.10; Caths. 305.00 per kg	
Three Months	328.75-329.00	+0.10; Caths. 328.75 per kg	
Vol	200	+0.10; Caths. 328.75 per kg	
Tone	Quiet	+0.10; Caths. 328.75 per kg	
ZINC HIGH GRADE			
Cash	451.00-452.00	+0.10; Caths. 451.00 per kg	
Three Months	448.00-449.00	+0.10; Caths. 448.00 per kg	
Vol	1000	+0.10; Caths. 448.00 per kg	
Tone	Quiet	+0.10; Caths. 448.00 per kg	
SILVER LARGE			
Cash	345.00-347.00	+0.10; Caths. 345.00 per kg	
Three Months	354.00-356.00	+0.10; Caths. 354.00 per kg	
Vol	Nil	+0.10; Caths. 354.00 per kg	

Jun	87.50	87.50
Aug	85.50	85.40
Oct	100.00	98.10
		Vol: 11

Pig Meat Vol: 0

Live Cattle Contract
£ per kilo

Month	Open	Close
Apr	98.30	98.50
Jun	98.00	98.00
Aug	98.00	98.50
Oct	97.00	97.00
		Vol: 1

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
£ per tonne

	Wheat	Barley
	Close	Close
Mar	118.25	113.12
May	118.50	113.60
Jul	119.50	114.00
Sep	99.95	99.10
Nov	102.50	101.20
Jan	104.50	105.65
Vol: Wheat	209	
Vol: Barley	58	

LONDON POTATO FUTURES
£ per tonne

Month	Open	Close
Apr	162.00	158.00
May	163.00	167.00
Nov	98.00	98.00
Feb	107.00	107.50
		Vol: 1048

OFFER

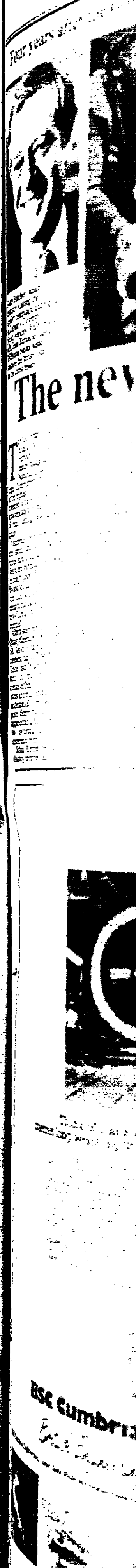
G.A.I. Freight Futures Ltd Dry
Cargo Report (\$/100 per point)

	High/Low	Close
Apr 87	\$32.00-\$32.50	\$32.00
Jul 87	\$32.00-\$32.00	\$32.00
Oct 87	\$32.00-\$31.50	\$32.00
Jan 88	\$32.00-\$32.00	\$32.00

Vol: 306 lots Open Ints: 2230

Spot market commentary:
Dry cargo index:
90.0/100 = 27.75

BSC



QUALITY IN INDUSTRY

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT



Four years after the Government started its National Quality Campaign, a look at its role and its effectiveness



John Butcher, junior minister leading the quality campaign, and right, at Jaguar's Coventry plant, workers Wally White, left, Jean Barnacle, Geoff Mills and Susan Kane complete the luxury touch on the latest model



In search of saving billions

In the late 1970s, a study of British industry concluded that companies were burdened by an extra £10 billion of costs because of lack of quality, a sum that represents 10 per cent of gross domestic product.

Such statistics gave birth in 1983 to the Government's multi-million pound National Quality Campaign, designed to fit in with the DTI's overall aim of improving the climate for industry and encouraging innovation.

Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, says — four years later — that the inescapable message for companies is "if you want your customers to come back, you need to ensure that your products don't", in other words, re-establishing Britain's reputation for producing goods of high quality and performance that will both attract customers and keep them.

The campaign was designed, said Mr Channon, to promote company-wide commitment to quality involving everybody from top management to the newest recruit "with the aim of making everyone aware of the importance of their own particular role and where it fits into the drive to improve total quality."

The foundations for the quality campaign, however, were laid in 1982 with the publication of the White Paper, Standards, Quality and International Competitiveness.

This laid down four broad areas in which the Government aimed to promote quality and encourage the adoption of standards, among them the development of independent certification schemes, a national accreditation system and the launching of a quality-awareness campaign.

The DTI says: "Modern quality management means adopting a total approach to quality. This requires a company or organization to arrange every aspect of its activity in a cost-effective way which ensures that a product or service is designed, built and delivered to meet the final

customer's needs and expectations.

"A vital part of this is making every member of the organization aware of quality and the importance of their role in achieving it."

The campaign, sponsored by the DTI jointly with the Confederation of British Industry, the National Economic Development Office and the British Standards Institution, aims specifically at encouraging self-help.

At the centre of the effort is the UK standard for quality management systems, BS5750, the prosaic but most important of the benchmarks by which companies are assessed. In 1984, about 6,000 firms had qualified for entry in the Register of Quality Assessed United Kingdom Companies; by last September the figure had risen to 9,000.

BS5750 will save you money, company managements are told, because procedures will be more soundly based and more efficient, it will ensure satisfied customers and it will reduce waste and time-consuming re-working of designs and procedures. In fact, the campaign has proceeded in several stages, beginning with advertising and followed by a series of conferences and seminars around the country. Now, it is concentrating on industrial sectors.

One of the biggest early boosts came from Rank Xerox, the UK-based copier manufacturer which has adopted stringent quality measures as part of its drive to fight off Japanese competition. The DTI offered support, including financial aid, to the first 40 suppliers to approach the company with plans to run their own Xerox-type quality campaigns.

On the standards front, says the DTI, much has been done but efforts will have to continue, "not least in drawing in greater commitment by industry and others, if standards-making and the standards produced in Britain are to be accorded the importance in industrial thinking which they undoubtedly warrant."

ET

The new key to competing

The Government aims to double to 80,000 the number of British companies taking part in the National Quality Campaign. Commitment by industry at the highest level is vital, say ministers, if the country is to gain a new reputation for making goods of real, lasting and genuine quality.

Numerous enterprises, large and small and including top names such as Jaguar and Rank Xerox, are increasingly preaching the quality gospel. But are they too few and too late? Once the money runs out, will British industry return to the bad old ways and see new-found market shares crumble?

After a shaky start, the National Quality Campaign, now four years old, looks to have gained momentum, but the Department of Trade and Industry recognizes that it must retain the initiative. Quality, believe ministers and many industry leaders, underpins all of the so-called non-price factors that have become appreciated as the new shiny keys to international industrial competitiveness.

John Butcher, the junior industry minister spearheading the

campaign, is confident that the changing management culture in Britain will accelerate the drive for quality. "You cannot measure this cultural change," he said. "You can measure the results of it in terms of increasing market share or volume or export successes measured against the best international competition."

But is the quality campaign a cover-up, a government ruse to divert attention from the erosion of the nation's manufacturing base and the huge level of unemployment?

Mr Butcher is adamant that the opposite is the case; quality creates competitiveness and that leads to stronger industries and more jobs.

He said: "The evidence of the restored health of the manufacturing sector is overwhelming. Even the most cautious of our internal economists at the Department of Trade and Industry are using words like 'booyah', an accurate and impartial description of industrial performance and prospects."

Some sectors of industry have always matched the quality of their European competitors, "but in others we almost opted out of the race in the 1970s and it is here that we are now hauling in the

Continental's lead. This is not just because of the exchange-rate bonus but also because we have resuscitated the 19th-century virtue of concentrating on non-price factors as much as price itself."

But as with so many areas of government-industry policy in the UK, it is well-nigh impossible to keep politics out of the quality equation. Mr Butcher is no exception. "Provided current trends continue and we do over the next decade what we have started in the

Selling more on better marketing

last three years, we can beat anybody," he said.

"Alternatively, we run the risk of throwing it all away. With an alternative government we would have a number of non-market pressures imposed on management, diverting their effort on to the industrial relations and remuneration of employees fronts, an undermining of the enterprise culture nationally and we would go back to living a lie, which is that somehow we can create jobs without continuing gains in competitiveness."

The current healthy obsession with quality was one of the forces which was leading the UK industry back into increasing its share in the domestic market and recent improvements in the export markets.

"The Brits, like the Germans, are selling more and more on increased quality and higher added value, better marketing, better design. Quality is at the heart of the non-price factors as perceived by consumers, with research showing that 50 per cent of buying decisions are made on non-price factors."

The big, inherited problem, in Mr Butcher's view, is that Britain threw away its reputation for quality and its made-in-Britain aura of excellence. But he adds that "many of our manufacturers have re-learned the quality message. My only fear is that British consumers are still suffering from a time lag in appreciation of British quality."

"Huge efforts are being made, many of them unsung, and I find it ironic that a lot of our manufacturers say that by increasing their market share of exports, they can only then convince the British that their products are worth looking at."

It was a legitimate DTI role to

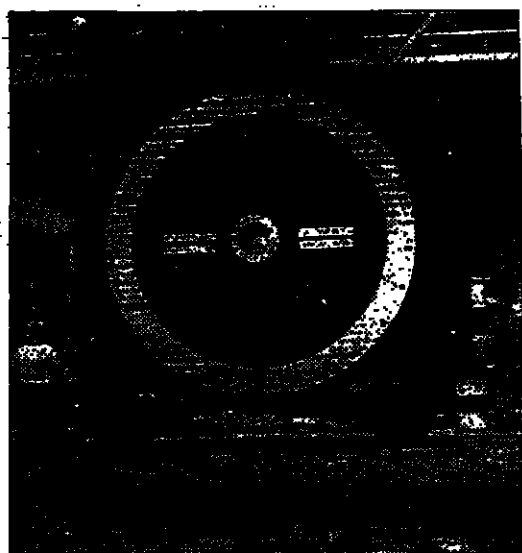
target the producer so that where best quality methods and management were identified, departmental resources were used to spread awareness either on a sectoral basis or on a regional basis, or by using individual spearhead companies.

Increasing the number of companies with an internal quality programme to 80,000 would give a sufficiently large population of quality-conscious firms for the message to filter through at its own pace.

Mr Butcher said: "Some forms of interventionism subvert market forces and other forms work with the grain of market forces. Quality comes into the latter category. The DTI is accepting the view of those who are commercially successful and helping to spread that awareness to others."

"So there are no hang-ups about using taxpayers' money to help their fellow taxpayers increase their market share and provide more jobs. The pump priming will finish when the quality culture is so prevalent that the vast majority of companies are doing it for enlightened self-interest reasons."

Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent



Think of it as a Swiss Watch over six metres long, weighing 58 tonnes and made in Britain.

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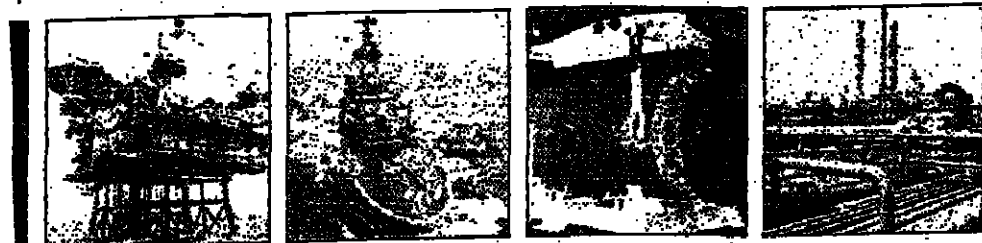
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FROM BRITAIN'S BEST CELLARS

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TRADITIONALLY BREWED TO BE PULLED BY HAND

IND COOPE BURTON BREWERY

FOCUS

QUALITY IN INDUSTRY/3

Fair profits and satisfied customers

Some firms are founded on quality and some have quality thrust upon them by the pressure to reduce costs and improve their competitive edge. The common thread that joins healthy sales figures, minimum reject costs, a satisfied work force and a satisfied customer is the good quality of the product.

This may seem blindingly obvious but has only recently been formalized as a maxim for the whole of industry, from the makers of the humblest widget to the most complex example of high electronics.

The pressure for improvement has come from several directions. In a fast-moving, complex, high-volume consumer society, the potential for disaster is far greater. The structural integrity of a building may depend on the sum of the quality of its least obvious parts. In the mass manufacture of food, the division between satisfaction

What he or she buys should fulfil its contract

and Montezuma's Revenge rests on the meticulous attention to quality.

Beyond these and a thousand other examples, the customer has come to expect that what he or she buys actually fulfils its contract and works, otherwise the loss to the manufacturer is two-fold: the return of reject goods and the departure of a customer to a competitor.

At shop-floor level, quality standards rarely these days depend on an authoritarian layer of inspectors picking out the bad apples among the finished products at a stage when responsibility for the fault may be difficult to pin down.

The mood these days is to ensure that a sense of quality percolates throughout the factory, commissioning each individual worker as his or her own quality controller. The process must, of course, begin at the top with board-level decisions in which everyone can believe.

The design of the product has to be right. It might also be backed by reasonable service and maintenance systems and preferably be capable of development.

For its part in the spread of quality consciousness, the company must provide the manufacturing equipment that allows the workers to match the ideal, yet maintain a volume of production that brings profit to the company.

All experience shows that improving quality in a production process brings a dramatic reduction of costs. A striking example of how even the simplest product may demand the most stringent quality standards is provided by Ives Pharmaceuticals of Larne in Northern Ireland.

The company mixes water with salt in plastic bags - which might not seem to call for much expertise or quality control. But this saline solution is fed directly into the veins of hospital patients.

One mistake, said Ives's managing director, Dr William Woodside, and the company would be finished. The product licence sets stringent standards for both the fluid and its packaging and the company imposes its own additional standards of quality assurance (by careful selection of certified raw materials) and quality management.

The highest quality in a valve which may have to contain pressures of up to 9,000 pounds a square inch or consignments of toxic, inflammable or corrosive liquids is manifestly essential. At the Hindle Cockburn Co. in Leeds, where these highly specialized valves are manufactured chiefly for the oil and chemical industries, they say that nobody can inspect goodness into a man's work.

Every member of the company is aware that he or she alone is responsible for quality standards. Every item at the factory must be certificated; if not, the consignment is turned away.

The company said: "We have turned away wagon-loads. That is the best way of getting the message through if they won't be told the first time." Within the factory, quality control is equally strict. An incorrect job is returned and the re-working time does not count towards a bonus. Workers are now used to this self-inspection routine and defects because of poor workmanship are rare.

Harker and Sons Engineers



Dimensional check on a roller for a large bearing: great accuracy is a standard requirement

Each member of the company is alone responsible for standards

at Stockton-on-Tees originated in the 19th century as a producer of steam engines for tugs and trawlers. The company now specializes in components for the more subtle energy produced by oil and nuclear power and for the aerospace industry. Much of Harker's production is controlled by an on-line, real-time computer system through which the frequent revisions and amendments are recorded.

Materials and stage inspections are also recorded in a complete information system which extends from top management to shop floor.

The company has found that though workers were at first apprehensive, the attitude has turned to positive acceptance of new technology that gives everyone a chance to learn new skills.

Said Malcolm Harker, the managing director: "There was some concern in the unions about responsibility for faults but we convinced them that this was not something aimed at the workforce. In fact, less than one-third of problems can generally be directed to the operator."

"You'll always have some mistakes made by human beings, I would rather con-

centrate first on the two-thirds of defects coming from other sources."

Restrictive practices have not been a problem. Harker recognized them as part of the skilled worker's pride in his trade. He said that when a man saw he was being offered a genuine chance to learn new skills he became less defensive.

The measuring instruments made by Penny and Giles for such demanding agencies as the Ministry of Defence and the Civil Aviation Authority require a near-perfect standard of performance and reliability.

The quality manager at the company has a broader role than pure inspection and is considered a valuable resource: a catalyst and positive force for change to whom anyone can refer.

The remarkable turnaround in the fortunes of Jaguar from the brink of extinction to thriving success has rested on the improved quality of the cars as much as the rise in productivity of the workers. The company introduced a campaign, "In Pursuit Of Perfection", with department managers formed into task forces that investigated and cured groups of faults.

Jaguar insisted that all contracting firms, with whom 60 per cent of faults were found to lie, should agree to accept responsibility for warranty costs arising from failure of their components. The suppliers are now considered part of the Jaguar team and are involved in product design at the earliest stage.

Corah of Leicester employs 4,500 in nine factories and produces more than a million garments a week, many of them bound for that fastidious outlet, Marks & Spencer.

Responsibility for quality has long rested with the operator actually making the goods, with a close inspection of every garment at the end of the production line. But a logical quality campaign in the company has cut the number of reject garments by half and customer returns by two-thirds.

At R H P Bearings' factories, quality control has undergone a revolution. The large teams of inspectors ruthlessly scrapping everything that failed to match up to requirements has gone.

The company said: "Our operators are now our quality inspectors." Declining markets, intense competition and rising costs forced the company into a rationalization. The cost of quality was measured as the value of time and material lost as scrap and the wages of non-productive inspection staff.

At one stage 186 inspectors watched over the work of 607 production operators. Today that ratio is around 60 to 470 and many inspectors have been re-trained as operators. Increased job satisfaction is reflected in excellent results.

The competition among breakfast-cereal manufacturers is intense, as any supermarket shelf stocked with the all the available varieties will testify.

Quality control in the food industry was already sophisticated long before other industries began talking about quality circles and consul-

Power to close down the plant completely

tative committees between workers and management.

In Kettering, Northamptonshire, about 60 million Weetabix are baked every week, each one to an identical standard of size, shape and content. With stocks held at little more than zero, interruptions to supply would be serious, so liaison with the workers and their unions is close.

First names are used at all levels among the 1,500 employees. There are as few formal rules as possible and regular meetings of a joint consultative committee which discusses everything happening in the factory except wage rates.

The quality control department has the power to shut down the plant completely if it suspects that standards are not being met. Production is monitored by electronic machines. The Weetabix makers take pride in matching the two great imperatives of their trade: value for money and quality that it would take only a mouse or a solitary wheat weevil to damage.

Ronald Faux

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The symbol of the Registration Mark indicates a product is in conformity with a British Standard. The symbol of the Certificate Mark indicates a product is in conformity with a British Standard.



The Loss Prevention Certification Board

For more information and a list of approved firms, please contact: The Loss Prevention Certification Board, 100, Victoria Road, London W14 7JF. Tel: 0181 734 2000.

Approved firms are listed in the Loss Prevention Certification Board's directory, which is available to members and to the public on request.

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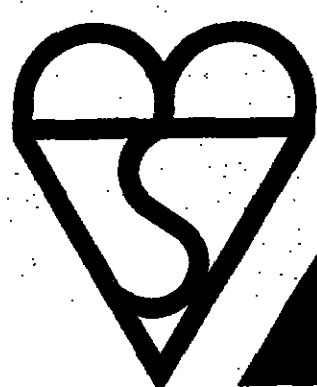
Naturally Caradon Mira (formerly Walker Crosswell) are pleased to be associated with the National Quality Campaign. Along with our sister companies, Caradon Twyford, Caradon Terrain and Caradon Plastics, our commitment to its aims is total. And sincere.

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The Safety Mark



The Registered Firm Symbol



The Registered Stockist Symbol



BS 9000

Today's buyers are more knowledgeable, more demanding and more inclined to buy from quality conscious suppliers - suppliers that can convince them that their quality needs will be met in full.

Many buyers not only need convincing, they also require hard evidence to support the manufacturer's claims that a product reaches a desired specification or that the manufacturer operates a first class quality system.

Quality Assurance Services, a division of BSI, can provide your company with the evidence that you need to convince your customers of your commitment to quality.

Good marketing and quality are the ingredients of the recipe of success and the BSI Hallmarks of Quality establish a direct bond between them.

Single Firm Registration to BS 5750

The base of most of BSI's quality schemes is BS 5750 Quality Systems, and any company who can demonstrate that they are operating a documented quality system in line with the standard can apply for registration as a BSI Registered Firm of Assessed Capability.

Sector based registration to BS 5750

Certain sectors of manufacturing and service industries require a scheme which not only uses BS 5750 but takes into account their special requirements and their clients.

These special requirements, determined by the manufacturing or service industry, its clients and BSI, are set out clearly in a Quality Assessment Schedule.

The registration procedure is identical to single firm registration with the addition that the requirements of the Quality Assessment Schedule must also be met.

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addition to the assessment of the Quality System, the products are subjected to the relevant tests as laid down in the appropriate standard.

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Tailor-made Certification or Assessment Schemes

The BS 9000 logo is used only in the electronic industry as part of a tailor-made scheme specifically for that industry. BSI operates a number of specially designed schemes to suit the unique requirements of a particular industry. Should your requirements not fall into one of the previous categories, start talking with BSI and between us we can devise a quality assessment scheme which will meet your quality requirements and those of your customers.

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BSI Quality Assurance Services

Contact us at: British Standards Institution, Linford Wood, Milton Keynes, MK14 6LO Tel. 0908 315555

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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Please send a full CV to Sally Chanter, Heathrow Airport Limited, D'Albiac House, Floor 117, Heathrow Airport, Hounslow, Middlesex TW6 1JH. Or telephone for an application form on 01-745 6498.



PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Martin Retail Group comprises over 1,200 shops country-wide and a Personal Assistant (to replace the present one who is moving out of the area) is required for the Managing Director at the Head Office in Brentwood, Essex.

The successful applicant is likely to be in the 35-45 age group, efficient, approachable, able to work on her own initiative, with a minimal amount of guidance, and under considerable pressure.

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Martin Retail Group

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Please apply in writing to Linda Coote, Project Personnel Co-ordinator, Brown & Root (UK) Limited, 31 Fairfield West, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey. Telephone: 01-541 2201, ext. 240.



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We need an experienced PA/Secretary to work for the Finance Director of Michael Joseph Limited and Sphere Books based at our modern, prestigious offices conveniently situated two minutes from High Street Kensington tube station.

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Sophie Witter and Janet Crumble

Spiritualism: dead or alive?

● An interesting account of spiritualism can be found in Norman Lewis's autobiography, *Jackson*, which he links to a particular class and period. 40 Minutes: House of Spirits (BBC2, 9.30pm) is full of figures from the kind of genteel and, one would have thought, long-gone world described by Lewis. The Spiritualist Association believes in contact with the dead; that their concerns are not of this world is perhaps best illustrated by a taste for awful wallpaper. Dark warnings are given about frauds, requests to remove clothing are to be viewed with extreme suspicion, and suggestions of hand-holding round a table and asking "Is anyone there?" provokes stifled giggles. Well, is anyone there? Evidence is vague. Most scenes appear like

guessing games; clairvoyance seems to go for safe shots in the dark and a lack of telling details. This programme keeps a straight face despite many improbabilities, although I did wonder about the interruption of one scene with a curfew to a door and a sign saying: To the Fire Exit.

● *Sharpeville Spirit* (Channel 4, 10.55pm) was made secretly in South Africa despite the State of Emergency. The film-makers were smuggled in and out of black areas, and result traces a local tradition of resistance and its expression through songs, poetry and theatre.

Chris Petit

● Chris Peachment writes: Once again the provinces provide a vernacular tradition which cinema seems unable to find in London. The derelict wilderness of Liverpool lends *No Surrender* (Channel 4, 9pm) a perfectly milieu for Alan Bleasdale's violent, hopeless humour. Michael Angelis may be a fool for taking on the management of a ghastly social club but he's not anyone's fool. In one long night of social terror he has to fend off nightmarishly bad vaudeville acts, an IRA man on the run and a double booking from two rival club people's clubs. A comedy of terminal desperation. The radio choice is *Markus Passio* (Radio 3, 2pm), which may be the first performance of a recently-found manuscript, dated 1752, in the style of Bach.



Boy from the black stuff: Bernard Hill and Joanne Whalley in Alan Bleasdale's violent satire *No Surrender* (Ch4, 9pm)

BBC1

6.00 *Coastal AM* 5.55 Weather. 7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and traffic reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.

8.40 *Watchdog*. Lynne Fawcett Wood and John Soplean investigate consumer problems 8.55 Regional news and weather.

9.00 *News and weather* 9.05 Day to Day. Robert Kilroy-Gibbs chats about compulsory sterilisation of the mentally handicapped. With Brian Rix of MENCAP. 9.45 *Advice Shop*. Margo MacDonald advises tenants on how to improve housing conditions (Coastal).

10.00 *News and weather* 10.05 *Neighbours* (r) 10.25 *Children's BBC* with Philip Schofield 10.30 *Play School* presented by Kate Copstick 10.50 *Peppercorn* (r)

10.55 *Five to Eleven*. Harry Gordon with a thought for the day 11.00 *News and weather* 11.05 *The Clothes Show*. Selma Scott and Jeff Banks at the 11.30 *Open Air*. With Patsy Cuthbert and Emma Holmes. Includes news and weather at 12.00.

12.20 *The Tom O'Connor Variety Show*. Variety show from Port Talbot with Tom, Debbie Greenwood and guests 12.55 Regional news and weather.

1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Martin Lewis. Weather 1.35 *Scottish*. Bad times for Scott 1.50 *The Flumps* (r)

2.05 *The Cheltenham Festival*. Julian Wilson presents the last day of the festival. 2.15 *The Daily Mirror*. 2.30 *The Christie's*. 3.30 *The Totipotential*

BBC2

6.55 *Open University*. Social science: computers and cost. Ends at 7.30.

8.00 *Castles*.

8.30 *Daytime on Two*. Maths at work - programme three. 8.55 *Colours in the third year*. 10.15 *Water 10.15* Why did the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbour in 1941? 11.00 in the air 11.15 *Topics for discussion* 11.40 *The Cage* 12.15 *Health and housing* this century in Scotland. Part eight. 12.35 *Coastal* 12.45 *Alternative sources of energy* 1.00 *Documentaries on modern French film* 1.30 *Part Four of the series on the origins of Wales*.

2.00 *News and weather* 2.05 *Wales*. Different types of birds eggs (r)

2.17 *Musical Time* with music from Kodaly's *Hary Janos*.

2.35 *International Soccer*. Canada plays the rest of the world in the Tuborg World Cup. Including news and weather at 3.00.

3.45 *News, regional news and weather*.

3.55 *The Cheltenham Festival*. Julian Wilson with the Ritz Club National Handicap. Stagecoach on the last day of the festival.

4.30 *Pamela Armstrong* with studio guests.

4.50 *International Soccer*. Further coverage from South Africa.

5.35 *Film 87*. Barry Norman previews *The Fourth Protocol* and *War Zone*.

6.00 *Mission Impossible*. (r)

6.50 *International Pro-Celebrity Golf*

7.40 *Call My Bluff*. With Arthur Marshall, Sarah Badel, Derek Jacoby, Frank Muir, Barbara Dickson and Geoffrey Smith.

8.10 *And the Winner is*. The Cheltenham Festival. From Dublin.

9.00 *Foreign Bodies*, starring Dan Gordon, Colman Convey, Hilary Reynolds and Maeva Bernstein.

9.30 *40 Minutes*. House of Spirits: a former nurse from Swansea auditions to become a clairvoyant. (see Choice) (Coastal)

10.10 *International Soccer*. Scotland versus England.

10.40 *The Budget*. Roy Jenkins MP for the Alliance (r)

10.50 *Newsnight* with analysis of the main events of the day.

11.35 *Weatherline*.

11.55 *Ludwig van Beethoven*. Daniel Barenboim plays the Piano Sonata No 25, Op 79.

11.50 *The Cheltenham Festival*. Highlights of the day.

12.10 *Weekend Outlook*. A selection from *Open University* for Saturday and Sunday.

12.10 *Open University Psychology* - is it as easy as ABC? Ends at 12.45.

12.55 *News*.

BBC2

6.55 *Open University*. Social science: computers and cost. Ends at 7.30.

8.00 *Castles*.

8.30 *Daytime on Two*. Maths at work - programme three. 8.55 *Colours in the third year*. 10.15 *Water 10.15* Why did the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbour in 1941? 11.00 in the air 11.15 *Topics for discussion* 11.40 *The Cage* 12.15 *Health and housing* this century in Scotland. Part eight. 12.35 *Coastal* 12.45 *Alternative sources of energy* 1.00 *Documentaries on modern French film* 1.30 *Part Four of the series on the origins of Wales*.

2.00 *News and weather* 2.05 *Wales*. Different types of birds eggs (r)

2.17 *Musical Time* with music from Kodaly's *Hary Janos*.

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12.55 *News*.

ITV LONDON

6.15 *TV-am* with Richard Keys. Weather at 6.30 and 6.55; news at 6.30; sport at 6.40; and a special at 6.55.

7.00 *Good Morning*. Presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News at 7.05, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.55; sport at 7.40; pop music at 7.45; and a special at 8.35. After Nine is presented by Jayne Leach, with guest star Cliff Richard.

9.25 *Thames News Headlines*.

9.30 *Schools*. Pottery 9.45 What's in a name? 10.15 How to keep healthy 10.11 Part three of *Gulliver's travels* 10.25 *Authority and death* 11.03 *Media English*

11.30 *Coming to terms with the death of a family pet* 11.37 *Modern broadcasting* 12.00 *Creepy Crawlers* (r) 12.10 *Puddle Lane Puppet* programme 12.30 *The Sullivan*. Ray refuses to film a documentary about housing conditions as it seems not to tell the whole truth.

1.00 *News at One* with Leonard Parfitt 1.30 *Thames News*

1.30 *Falcon Crest*. Richard Channing stars in jail 2.25 *Home Cookery Club*. Recipes for yogurt scones.

2.30 *Daytime*. Sarah Kennedy hosts discussion on the compulsory sterilisation of a 17-year-old girl. With Brian Croxall of MENCAP. Dr Brudenell of King's College Hospital, representatives of the BMA and NCCU, and parents.

3.00 *News at Two*. Tips on the latest street fashions and how to make them cheaply come from Muriel Gray, Marie Hevin and Stephanie Turner.

3.25 *Thames News Headlines*.

3.30 *News at Two*. Drama of two Australian families.

4.00 *Children's ITV*. *Orme* and *Chimp* 4.10 *Batink* 4.20 *The Wind in the Willows* 4.45 *The*

CHANNEL 4

2.20 *Their Lordships' House*. Highlights of yesterday's debates in the House of Lords. (r)

2.30 *Film: I Lived With You* (1933). Ivor Novello as Prince Felix Lermoff who flees from Russia to live with the humble Welsh family in England. Ursula Jeans plays the teenage shop assistant who falls in love with the Russian and follows him back. From a play by Ivor Novello; directed by Maurice Elvey.

4.20 *Woody Woodpecker* confronts leopards Wally Walrus on the beach.

4.30 *Countdown*. Sharon Harper, housewife and mother from Castle Donington in the Leicestershire, is in the seat today. Hosted by Richard Whitley and Richard Stilgoe.

5.00 *Film: Cast a Dark Shadow* (1955). Margaret Lockwood and Dirk Bogard star in this thriller. Bogard is the ambitious clerk who murders his rich wife, believing that she intends to leave her money to her sister instead of him. His new wife, the publican's widow played by Lockwood, begins to suspect him after they move into a gloomy house together. Based on the play *Murder Mistaken* by Janet Green. Directed by Lewis Gilbert.

6.30 *Union World*. Trevor Hyett and Mike Walsh look at developments in the trade union world.

7.00 *Channel 4 News*. Presented by Peter Seaton and Christopher King. Includes a report on Rolls Royce, which today produces its last accounts before privatisation. Followed by weather.

8.00 *Treasure Hunt*. Anneka Hunt leads the hunt around Hertfordshire with two sisters from Woburnhampton and Market Drayton. Rosemary Burns and Sheila Bloxham. They get help from the Royal Air Force. (Oracle)

9.00 *Film: No Surrender* (1985). Balic comedy by Alan Bleasdale. Mike takes over a nightclub in Liverpool to find a trail of problems left by the previous owner. Starring Michael Angelis and Mavis Bunnage. Directed by Peter Smith. (see Choice) (Oracle)

10.55 *Sharpeville Spirit*. A film made secretly 25 years after the Sharpeville massacre tracing the lives and beliefs of the people who lived under but continue to resist apartheid. With performances from Mamee Papania, Bhebezana Tshepo and Motau Kaba. (see Choice)

11.50 *Their Lordships' House*. Highlights of today's proceedings from the House of Lords. Ends at 12.30.

VARIATIONS

BBC1 *Wales* 5.35pm-6.00 *Wales Today* 6.30-7.00 *Gardening Today* 7.15-7.30 *News and weather* 7.30-7.55 *Scottish* 8.00-8.30 *News and weather* 8.30-8.55 *Scottish* 9.00-9.30 *News and weather* 9.30-9.55 *Scottish* 10.00-10.30 *News and weather* 10.30-10.55 *Scottish* 11.00-11.30 *News and weather* 11.30-11.55 *Scottish* 12.00-12.30 *News and weather* 12.30-12.55 *Scottish* 1.00-1.30 *News and weather* 1.30-1.55 *Scottish* 2.00-2.30 *News and weather* 2.30-2.55 *Scottish* 3.00-3.30 *News and weather* 3.30-3.55 *Scottish* 4.00-4.30 *News and weather* 4.30-4.55 *Scottish* 5.00-5.30 *News and weather* 5.30-5.55 *Scottish* 6.00-6.30 *News and weather* 6.30-6.55 *Scottish* 7.00-7.30 *News and weather* 7.30-7.55 *Scottish* 8.00-8.30 *News and weather* 8.30-8.55 *Scottish* 9.00-9.30 *News and weather* 9.30-9.55 *Scottish* 10.00-10.30 *News and weather* 10.30-10.55 *Scottish* 11.00-11.30 *News and weather* 11.30-11.55 *Scottish* 12.00-12.30 *News and weather* 12.30-12.55 *Scottish* 1.00-1.30 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New clinic to help reduce football's long-term injured

By John Goodbody

A purpose-built clinic for footballers suffering from long-term injuries may ease the effect such problems play on Bobby Robson's squad. The England team manager was at the official opening of the Football Association's National Rehabilitation Centre at Lillleshall, Shropshire, yesterday.

The centre was officially opened by Mr Dick Tracey, the Sports Minister. But so eager have the FA been to open a clinic to injured competitors — in all sports — because of previously poor of hard-to-find facilities, that the complex has been operational since last September.

It is aimed to cope primarily with League football players suffering long-term injuries. Because club medical staff are forced to devote much of their time preparing teams for fixtures, they do not always have the opportunity of giving the full attention to players recovering from operations.

Among the top-class footballers who have already stayed at Lillleshall are Kevin Sheedy, of Everton, Colin West, of Glasgow Rangers, and Graham Rix, of Arsenal. Rix was able to recuperate after his Achilles tendon injury with a series of carefully graduated and monitored

movements, sometimes receiving treatment for six hours a day.

One particularly valuable apparatus, imported from the United States at a cost of £17,000, is an isokinetic leg machine, which records the strength of the thigh muscles being flexed on a computer print-out.

Mr Tracey said: "An injury can make the difference between winning or losing a championship. There is a genuine need for all facilities for top-class competitors to recover from injury."

The clinic is based near the National Sports Centre and available to leading men and women from other sports — space permitting — and can carry out physiological testing with the staff from Loughborough University.

The good wishes of many people in football, either delivered in person or sent in messages, accompanied yesterday's official opening.

Graeme Souness, the player-manager of Glasgow Rangers, said of West's treatment: "He suffered a bad injury, damaging his knee ligaments. It required more treatment and rehabilitation than even a club of our size can manage."

"The treatment he received could not be bettered and they sent him back to us in great shape. I would certainly take advantage of its facilities again in similar circumstances."

Robson said: "As a former League manager, I know that any club would have occasion to use such a centre every season. When one's livelihood is at stake, it is imperative that the treatment you receive ensures a quick and total recovery."

"Although in my playing career I was fortunate not to sustain a serious injury, as a manager there have been many times that I had a player out with a long-term injury who would have benefited, I am sure, from visiting the centre."

Another role of the clinic will be to monitor the physical development of the boys attending the FA General Motors National School, which is also based at Lillleshall under the technical direction of Dave Sexton. The boys, who are on two-year scholarships there, will be examined regularly.

The cost of attending the centre is £200 for five days' full board and medical treatment, while a 30-minute treatment session would cost £10.

ITV to broadcast Cup semi-final

ITV will broadcast the FA Cup semi-final between Coventry City and Leeds United in its entirety at 2.30 on Sunday April 12, within an hour of the end of the game, which kicks off at Hillsborough at 12.15.

The television companies failed to convince the FA earlier this season to stage one of the semi-finals on a Sunday so it could be broadcast live. The FA switched the game to Sunday at the request of South Yorkshire police, but the early start did not suit ITV schedules.

The rearranged date has meant that Neil Aspin, the Leeds full back, has had to change his wedding plans. Aspin was due to marry Diane Lythell at a Harrogate church on that day, which is also his birthday. But the wedding has now been put back to April 26 so he can play in the semi-final.

Coventry are expecting their biggest league game for more than seven years for tomorrow night's home match against Oxford. Supporters who attend the game will be given vouchers for the semi-final.

● Neil Midgeley, aged 44, was yesterday appointed to referee the final.

● Charlton Athletic are anticipating support of at least 20,000 at Wembley on March 29 for the Full Members' Cup

Socrates takes his leave

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) — Socrates's surprising decision to cut short his career by six months will rob Brazilian football supporters of one of their last great heroes.

Even though his contract with Flamengo was due to expire in September, the Brazilian international captain decided to terminate it on Monday when he officially announced the end of his brilliant and sometimes controversial career.

"I do not think it is fair to take a high salary without working," Socrates said, a reference to the decision by the Flamengo manager, Sebastiao Lazaroni, to keep him in the reserves, fielding the little-known player, Alilton, instead. Socrates was reported to be earning a monthly salary of \$10,000, plus bonuses.

"If I cannot serve my club, the best thing to do is pack up and go home," he added.

Socrates will return to his previous profession as a doctor, a career he temporarily abandoned when his commitment to football made it impossible for him to be dedicated to both.

Known throughout Brazil as "The Doctor", Socrates scored 160 goals in six years with São Paulo's Corinthians but only five in 18 months with Flamengo, where he made just 20 appearances.



Master's stroke: Viv Richards sweeps on his way to 119 against New Zealand in Dunedin. The West Indies captain also took five wickets in his side's 95-run win. Report, page 35

Improved course set for record run

By David Powell

Ingrid Kristiansen's attempt to beat her women's world marathon best at the Mars London Marathon on May 10 will be enhanced by improvements to the course which, according to John Disley, the course director, could be worth up to 45 seconds to her.

At the London Marathon two years ago Mrs Kristiansen set a time of 2hr 21min 55sec, a world best which still stands. If she better that she will collect \$30,000 for winning, \$50,000 for a world best and \$10,000 for a course record. In addition there is a \$30,000 incentive to break through the 2hr 20min barrier — a time achieved by fewer than 50 men in last year's race.

Steps are being taken to eliminate the notorious cobblestone sections and Disley said yesterday: "We have improved the surfaces and there are fewer corners, both of which slow runners down. It's the best course we have ever had and, for Kristiansen, should be worth between 30 and 45 seconds."

Chris Brasher, the race

director, says that Mrs Kristiansen could double her pay-day by running the Boston Marathon in April but has chosen London because the course is "less abusive on the body".

In Mrs Kristiansen's absence last year, Grete Waitz, her Norwegian compatriot, won the women's race but Mrs Waitz is not returning, nor is the men's winner, Toshikiko Seko. This leaves the Britons, Charlie Spedding and Hugh Jones, along with the West German, Herbert Steffny, as the favourites.

Brasher's estimate that of the 28,364 accepted entries, some 24,000 will start, suggests that London should regain its position as the world's biggest marathon. New York leads the way with 19,243 finishers last year.

Greater attention will be paid than in any of the previous six London Marathons towards catching the cheats. Brasher has promised to make public all names of those who are proven by means of strategically placed video cameras, not to have covered the full distance.

Seoul race attracts large entry

Seoul (AP) — At least 513 runners, including 116 women, from 78 countries have sent in entries to compete in the second World Cup marathon in Seoul on April 11 and 12, organizers said yesterday.

The event, which includes the entry of Taisuke Kodama, of Japan, who has the world's third best time of 2hr 7min 35sec, is being staged as a rehearsal for next year's Seoul Olympics. The biennial meeting, which started in Hiroshima, Japan, is supervised by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

In Beijing, the Chinese Athletic Association said Wednesday that China will enter two men in the Seoul meeting. China, a close ally of North Korea, does not have diplomatic relations with South Korea but sent athletes to the Asian Games in Seoul last year, while North Korea boycotted the games.

China, chosen as the site of the 1990 Asian Games, has not officially announced whether it will enter the 1988 Olympics in Seoul.

Dunwoody gets National ride on West Tip

By Alan Lee

Pride was swallowed on all sides yesterday as the big race soap opera reached its only sensible conclusion. Richard Dunwoody will, after all, partner West Tip in next month's Grand National — but not in today's Cheltenham Gold Cup.

After days of pique hasty words and rash judgement, it was a monumental climb-down by Michael Oliver, the trainer of West Tip and, to a lesser extent, by the jockey Dunwoody.

Ironically, the peace agreement was only made possible by the tragic misfortune still hounding Richard Linley, who had been engaged to ride last year's National winner both at Cheltenham and Aintree only on Tuesday, before rediscovering his right shoulder in the act of winning the Arkle Chase.

Oliver had turned to Linley, who fitted his stipulations of being both experienced and available, after falling out with Dunwoody over his decision to ride Charter Party, for his boss David Nicholson, in the Gold Cup. The Dromedary trainer bluntly told Dunwoody that if he did not ride for him at Cheltenham he would lose the ride at Aintree, too, and further remarked: "I expect a bit more loyalty than this."

Dunwoody's response, considered at some length, was to sever all connections with Oliver. He issued a prepared statement on Tuesday morning to the effect that he would never ride again for a man with whom he had a mutually productive relationship over a number of years.

Clearly, this unpleasant acrimony was foreign to both the protagonists and, when it became plain that Linley, the chosen deputy, would be sidelined for some days, Oliver had the opportunity to patch up the partnership. It needed a sensitive phone call from him and a retraction from Dunwoody, to restore some sanity to a crazy situation.

Dunwoody's feelings on Tuesday night had combined sympathy for Linley, with confusion for himself. He honestly wondered whether his famous link with West Tip was forever soured, and pondered just how much pride he could overcome.

Eventually, professionalism won through, for as he said: "How can I turn down the chance to win the National again? West Tip will take all the beating in the race, I know the horse and I believe in him. It's unfortunate that this had to happen but I hope it is all over now."

More racing, pages 36-37

Andries puzzled by reports of 'rip-off'

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Dennis Andries was reported to be bewildered yesterday by suggestions that he had been "ripped off" by his manager, Greg Steene, after losing his World Boxing Council light-heavyweight title to Thomas Hearns in Detroit on March 7.

Anna Steene, Greg's mother, said "Dennis told us today he never told anyone that he received only \$29,000 from Greg. How could he? The sums have not yet been done. Greg will be back on Saturday from Florida and he will sit down with Dennis and his accountant."

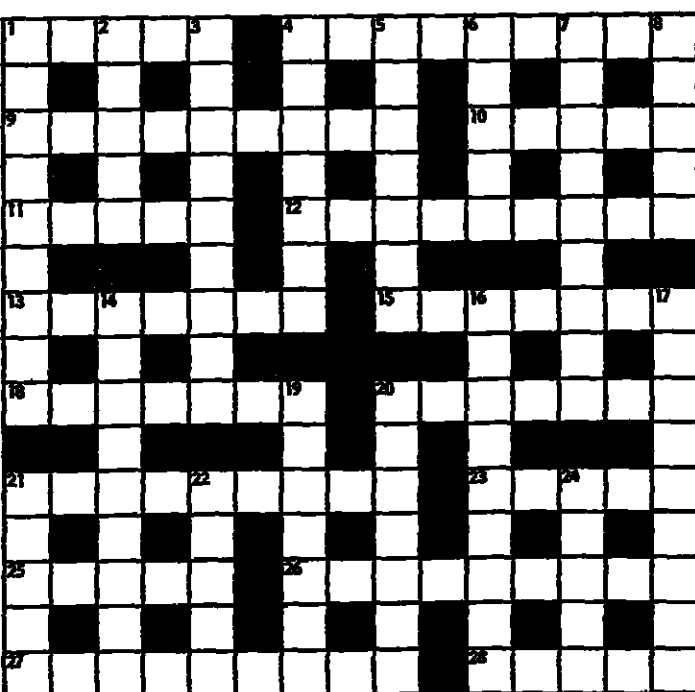
The Steene family say they will be seeking legal advice with a view to taking action against certain newspapers.

A distraught Mrs Steene added: "We could not believe what the newspapers were saying about giving back two-thirds of the \$48,000 held by them so long as Andries agrees not to box in United States for the rest of the year. 'Greg will be getting back \$32,000 from the American tax people and I have got \$10,000 for him here with me, and there is another \$15,000 or so to come from extras,'" Mr Steene said.

Mr Steene also denied that Frank Warren, the London promoter, had offered to stage Andries' defence in London for \$400,000. He said that Greg Steene had been offered \$300,000 by Bob Arum, the American promoter to put on Andries' defence against Hearns in Las Vegas. But Hearns failed to knock out Doug DeWitt, Arum withdrew the offer and the Steenes turned to Emmanuel Steward, Hearns' manager. Steward was interested and offered the Steenes \$180,000.

When suitable dates were not available in Las Vegas the bout was taken to Detroit, Hearns' home town. Hearns received \$150,000. "Even if he was a big name he did not mind taking less than Dennis because he wanted the light-heavyweight title," Steene senior said.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,308



- ACROSS**
- Dance in prison (5).
 - Settle sectarian differences (9).
 - Baseball player taking time-out (9).
 - Lawrence with the Japanese sash he washes (5).
 - Many young retreating but victorious general (5).
 - To sum up, 10 empties to be collected (9).
 - Economist in vein (7).
 - Head not shown in attractive picture (7).
 - Mother's unusual means of keeping warm (7).
 - Joint medical speciality that's brilliant (7).
 - Supports archbishop, in a manner of speaking (4,5).
 - In Slough, starts to utter specie that's counterfeit (5).
 - Turn back if the experiment is dubious (5).
 - Flower pictures I suppress (9).
 - Cut obsolescent fuel store (9).
 - Gambling row (5).
- DOWN**
- Counsel to reform and stop recording (4,5).
 - 7-1 — walk-over (5).
 - Getting warm place for gymnastic exercises (2,3,4).
 - Bill Lock, one in play (7).
 - Put top on glue — it's upset (7).
 - Show travelled round (5).
 - Oldest inhabitant from a source in Lincoln... (9).
 - ... loses his shirt perhaps, being gullible (5).
 - Makes proper use of taxes the sovereign introduced (9).
 - Replies, conversely "Go forwards" (4,5).
 - Persuaded great PM to climb up and drop off (2,2,5).
 - Around Dover, prize appears off-shore (7).
 - The girl has changed, having lost weight (7).
 - Muddle up fare some days (5).
 - Authority keeps mum (3-2).
 - Simpleton employed by a tailor (5).

Concise Crossword, page 14

WEATHER

Cold, showery north to north-west airflow across the country. Most of the country will have a mixture of bright or sunny weather and showers. The showers will fall as sleet or snow in many areas, with some heavy and prolonged snow showers in places, more especially in northern and north-western districts. The best of any sunshine and prolonged dry weather will be in southern Britain, but even here, a few heavy snow showers could occur. It will feel cold in the fresh sometimes strong north-west wind, with gales in northern and western areas. Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: remaining cold, with further snow showers in places. Night frosts.

ABROAD

Area	Cloud	Drizzle	Sun	Temp	Wind	Notes
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright
Algeria	C	F	10	52	11	bright

AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Cloud	Drizzle	Sun	Temp	Wind	Notes
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright
London	C	F	10	52	11	bright

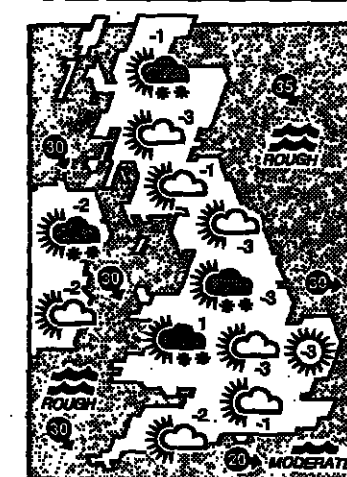
HIGH TIDES

Area	Time	Height	Notes
London	6.41	6.56	am
London	6.51	6.44	pm
London	6.53	6.47	am
London	6.49	6.43	pm
London	7.03	6.58	am

THE POUND

Area	Rate	Notes
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank
Australia	2.35	Bank

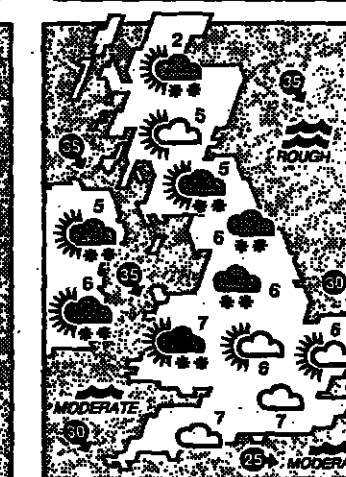
AM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

Area	Time	Notes
London	6.41	am
London	6.51	pm
London	6.53	am
London	6.49	pm
London	7.03	am

PM



LONDON

Area	Time	Notes
London	6.41	am
London	6.51	pm
London	6.53	am
London	6.49	pm
London	7.03	am

YESTERDAY

Area	Temp	Notes
London	6.41	am
London	6.51	pm
London	6.53	am
London	6.49	pm
London	7.03	am

MANCHESTER

Area	Temp	Notes
London	6.41	am
London	6.51	pm
London	6.53	am
London	6.49	pm
London	7.03	am

NOON TODAY

Area	Temp	Notes
London	6.41	am
London	6.51	pm
London	6.53	am
London	6.49	pm
London	7.03	am

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

March 19, 1987

Managing directors are a comparatively rare breed. They reach their position of eminence in a variety of ways. For some, it has been the result of sheer hard work in the same company, each rung on the promotion ladder painfully gained. For others, luck has played a large part — or, perhaps more accurately, they have made their luck as they moved from company to company. Or perhaps outstanding technical competence and commercial acumen have drawn the attention of the chairman and the board who then actively foster career development. And again, for others, promotion is the result of the best political nous around.

But whatever the path to success in the hierarchy, whatever the industry — be it service, extracting gravel, manufacturing swingle widgets or digging for diamonds — the favoured few may be less secure than they appear.

For the view they have of themselves and the way they perceive their performance are quite different from the view held of them by colleagues, subordinates, friends and competitors.

For example, how often have you observed a key executive at a reception whose progress through the crowd evokes awe, admiration, envy in the minds of most people present? If it is a man, admiring comment is made on his ability to get on with people, as he

gives a word of congratulation here, laughs heartily there, makes flattering comment on the dress sense of the dowdiest well-to-do. "How does he do it?" you say. "I wish I had half his presence."

If it is a woman, similar comment is made with the knowledge that she has very probably had to work twice as hard as every male present in order to get to her present position.

The reality is often quite different. Frequently the most accomplished manager possesses an excruciating self-doubt. A smile masks the insecurity of one who knows that his self-esteem in no way matches the esteem in which he is held by others.

The reason is quite simple. He has no one to talk to about his feelings and problems. Oh, yes, he can take them on occasion to his chairman — but not too often because it might, just might, be considered an expression of failure.

He can, of course, have a word with one of his peers. Here again, once or twice is enough, for to exceed the ration might, just might, indicate that he is pest.

So he retreats into his fortress, the portulac comes down and his relationships with work-force, subordinates and peers do not improve. And when you think about it, if he does not get results from his people he is not exercising his true function as a manager.

So we have the situation that a

'The employees are a company's biggest asset, and they must always come first'



Coral Morgan-Thomas

very expensive asset is not performing as effectively as it should. Now in industry and commerce the purchase of an asset can often involve the provision of a maintenance contract to service the asset over its operational life. Such a contract can be quite simple — a factory-cleaning contract, for example.

At the other extreme, maintenance can be very complex and correspondingly expensive, involving regular visits from skilled service men, instant call-out in cases of emergency and the in-house training of the purchaser's own maintenance engineers. For a factory of any size the potentially disastrous effect a breakdown can have on production schedules or effectiveness makes close attention to maintenance requirements on this scale almost mandatory.

Whatever the contract, it will cost money. Indeed, in a relatively short time expensive service visits and the cost of replacement spares may even outweigh the original cost of the asset. Despite this, many maintenance contracts are authorized prior to or at the time of purchase with little demur because in this way the purchaser buys the reassurance that the asset's effectiveness will be maintained and that any breakdown, should it occur, will be dealt with immediately.

So it's odd, isn't it, that a company can appoint a managing director or senior executive without giving a thought to the maintenance of the asset? Even odder when you think that this kind of asset in a medium-sized company can cost the purchaser anything between £300,000 and

£500,000 over a 10-year period. Where long-term contracts are the norm the cost to the employer over the effective life of an executive can easily exceed £1 million.

If the executive never gets out of long leave or falls under the proverbial bus, the cost of replacement, involving recruitment expenses and the inevitable learning curve, mean we are in the middle of some very big figures indeed.

Extend the reasoning to cover all employees in companies and organizations against the background of the head count and the absolute necessity for every individual to make his or her effective contribution to the enterprise, then it might suggest that reassessment of how people are viewed is overdue.

Fortunately, there are resources

available now to provide all levels of a company with "people maintenance" services that can be tailored to suit individual requirements. For some companies there is an urgent need to work with senior executives whose work is falling below acceptable standards; private counselling sessions will establish what remedial action could bring about an improvement. For others, counselling sessions with each board member can help to remove the blocks that so often limit the effectiveness of board debate.

Again, some companies — alarmed at excessive stress levels or unable to resolve unacceptable changes of behaviour in individuals or groups (resulting in, for example, heavy absenteeism) — will arrange for counsellors to be available to anyone for private discussion at specified times during the working week throughout the year.

From experience, the benefits of a sound, planned approach to counselling are both short-term and long-term. For senior executives under stress the effects can be immediate and sometimes dramatic. For groups and companies the long-term improvements in morale and corporate well-being can be objectively tested. At the very top level, counselling can make a positive

and observable contribution to building the board team.

What should a company look for in the provider of a counselling service? In addition to the normal inquiries that one would make concerning a potential supplier of any service, I would suggest that there are two key criteria to be met. They are that the counsellors:

- Should have been trained in personal and group counselling to an acceptable standard by a recognized institution. A degree in psychology does not of itself meet this criterion.
- Should have practised their skills in industry and commerce. This is essential because in such assignments time is at a premium and counselling cannot proceed at the more leisurely pace acceptable elsewhere.

In sum, I would maintain that the application of conventional asset maintenance principles to the most important asset a company has, namely its people, is a matter of first priority. Within that category, attention paid to the chief executive's sense of comfort with himself and his achievements will provide the first and most far-reaching pay-off.

Coral Morgan-Thomas is a director of the consultancy company *Role Management*, of Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. The company specializes in occupational counselling.

Appointments Phone: 01-481 4481

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BBC APPOINTMENTS

Radio Scotland
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Glasgow and/or Edinburgh

PRODUCER
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To work as one of a team of Producers for Radio Scotland's News and Current Affairs outlets, with journalistic experience, familiarity with broadcasting techniques, the ability to work quickly and accurately under pressure, a knowledge of Scottish affairs and a good microphone voice needed. (Ref. 6926/T)

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London W1M 5AP,

Closing date: 20.03.87



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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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East End Executive

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REGIONAL GENERAL MANAGER

HARROGATE

Yorkshire Regional Health Authority provides strategic management for health services to 3.6 million people delivered through 17 District Health Authorities. The Region employs 70,000 staff and has an annual revenue spend of 783m.

Major management changes have been introduced in the last two years at both the Regional Health Authority and in each of its Districts. Our Regional General Manager has made considerable progress in giving a new impetus and direction to the management of the service. He is now returning to his former employer in a top management position, and we look to recruit a successor who will build on the excellent foundation he has laid.

Our prime aim is the improvement of health and health care for people in the Region. We are looking for strong and imaginative leadership of a management team in which the emphasis is on individual accountability for the efficient use of resources. The General Manager is responsible for putting into effect the Authority's decisions

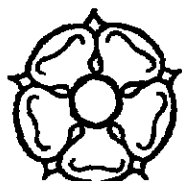
and policies, and improving management performance in meeting objectives. Candidates should be able to demonstrate considerable success at senior level in a major enterprise, and be capable of commanding the support and respect of Authority Chairmen, Members, clinicians and other professionals within the NHS.

The salary for the post is £37,000, although a performance related pay scheme is in operation, providing a potential maximum of over £44,000. A higher salary may be available for an exceptional candidate.

Please write in the strictest confidence, giving sufficient brief details to justify a preliminary interview, to the Chairman:

Bryan Askew,
The Old Brewery,
Tadcaster,
LS24 9SB.

Yorkshire Regional Health Authority



Yorkshire Regional Health Authority

PEMBROKE COLLEGE, OXFORD

Appointment of Senior Domestic and Conference Manager

Applications are invited for the above post, the Manager to be responsible to the Bursar for the day-to-day administration of the domestic activities in the College, i.e. catering, accommodation, and conference facilities. It is expected that the successful candidate will have considerable managerial experience in the catering industry, hotels or other residential establishments. Salary up to £15,000 p.a. pension scheme: other benefits.

Further particulars and application forms are available from:

The Bursar,
Pembroke College,
Oxford,
OX1 1DW

to whom applications must be returned by 17th April 1987.

ASSISTANT INVESTMENT MANAGER

SOUTH - EAST ASIA

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The position will involve identifying and analysing companies in Hong Kong, Malaysia, and Singapore to work under the direction of the Investment Manager. An element of travel is involved.

The successful applicant will be in his / her mid twenties with a minimum of 1 years experience in South-East Asian markets.

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D/571/QB

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Financial Services Sector

c £25,000 + car

London SW1

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You are a Chartered Secretary, probably aged around thirty, with at least three years post qualification experience. You must have a thorough understanding of Company law and some familiarity with pensions administration. Previous experience in the financial services sector would be an advantage. You are looking for additional responsibility and can demonstrate enthusiasm, commercial awareness and the ability to work on your own initiative.

Salary is for discussion according to experience. Benefits include car, non contributory pension, PPP and a subsidised restaurant. Please write - in confidence - with details of career to date and current salary to Lesley Gifford, ref. A20247.

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3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5PJ Telephone: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. Telex: 287374. Fax: 01-256 8501
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The appointment will be for a period of 5 years, with the possibility of extension, at a starting salary of £15,783 to £17,572 depending on experience.

Telephone or write for application forms to: Judith Donald, National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London WC2H 0HE. 01-930 1552. An equal opportunities employer.

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Applications marked 'Personal and Confidential' should be sent with full C.V. (including details of languages spoken), references, and photograph to:

The Chairman's Office,
European Democratic Group,
European Parliament,
97 Rue Belliard,
1040 Brussels,
Belgium

to arrive not later than 17 April 1987. Further details of the appointment can be obtained from the same address.

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The closing date for receipt of applications is 15 May 1987.

**Cancer Research
Campaign**

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Send your full cv to Jenny Heap, Head of Personnel, Fulcrum Communications Ltd, Fulcrum House, 307-317 Euston Road, London NW1 3AD. Telephone 01-388 2373.

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Informal enquiries may be made to Mr. John E. Taylor, District General Manager, on (0267) 234501.

An information package and application details are available from:

**District Personnel Department,
East Dyfed Health Authority,
Starling Park House,
Johnstown,
Carmarthen,
Dyfed.**

Tel: (0267) 234501 Ex. 4031.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 10th April 1987.

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**Brian Robinson, Personnel Manager,
Bovis Construction Limited,
Bovis House, Northolt Road,
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Telephone: 01-422 3488.**

1837 P&O 1987

Bovis
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Chief Executive

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as adviser to the Corporation**

TYZACK
& PARTNERS LIMITED

10 Halfan Street, London, W1N 6DJ. Telephone: 01-580 2924

PRESCRIPTION PRICING AUTHORITY

Chief Executive Salary £30,000

- Have you ...
- Experience in a senior management post in a large organisation
 - Experience in advising a board of directors or an Authority, proposing plans, policies and priorities
 - Well developed communication skills
 - The ability to manage substantial change
 - Leadership qualities
 - Preferably a degree or equivalent qualification and are aged 35-55

The Prescription Pricing Authority is a Special Health Authority with a budget of c. £20 million per annum employing around 2,000 staff in its Newcastle Headquarters and eight regional offices. The Authority is responsible for two prime functions:

The examining, checking and pricing of prescriptions and the preparation of payment schedules for the remuneration of chemists and dispensing doctors and providing information on the costs and trends of prescribing and conducting research into the development of improved information services.

The Authority processes some 350 million prescriptions per year at a value of £1.5 billion with data collected via 1,500 terminals linked by ROCC mini computers to 7 Honeywell mainframe computers handling pricing and information tasks.

If you wish to have an informal discussion about this post, please contact Ms. J. Cameron, on 091 2325371.

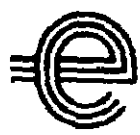
Further details and application forms are available from the Personnel Officer, Prescription Pricing Authority, Bridge House, 152 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6SN.

Closing date for applications is 21st April 1987.

CENTRAL AUDIT TEAM LEADER

INTERNAL AUDIT

£20,526 - £23,683 p.a. inc.



**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY
GENERATING BOARD
HEADQUARTERS**

The Central Electricity Generating Board is responsible for the generation and transmission of electricity in England and Wales and operates one of the largest integrated power systems in the world.

Internal Audit is a centralised function providing a management service throughout the Board. The Central Audit Team Leader is a senior post established as part of the continuing development of the Internal Audit function.

The successful candidate will be expected to make a positive contribution to the development of audit policy, audit planning, development of audit techniques and standards and the establishment of a quality control function within Internal Audit. Responsibilities will also include reviewing and advising on the Board's Directives and Procedures and participating as a team leader on specific audit assignments.

Applicants must have professional and hard working, showing a willingness and capability to set a project through from initiation to satisfactory completion within agreed timescales. They should also be able to motivate staff and coordinate effectively at all levels.

Candidates should possess relevant professional qualifications and be able to demonstrate extensive professional experience of internal audit within a large organisation.

The post is based at Board HQ but may involve limited travel to any of the Board's locations.

Applications in writing only, giving full career details and salary history, to Group Personnel Office, CEB, Salway House, 15 Houghton Street, London EC1A 7AD by 31 March 1987.

Quote reference 78/77/11/11.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

REGIONAL GENERAL MANAGER

HARROGATE

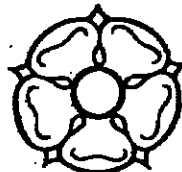
Yorkshire Regional Health Authority provides strategic management for health services to 3.6 million people delivered through 17 District Health Authorities. The Region employs 70,000 staff and has an annual revenue spend of £783m.

Major management changes have been introduced in the last two years at both the Regional Health Authority and in each of its Districts. Our Regional General Manager has made considerable progress in giving a new impetus and direction to the management of the service. He is now returning to his former employer in a top management position, and we look to recruit a successor who will build on the excellent foundation he has laid.

Our prime aim is the improvement of health and health care for people in the Region. We are looking for strong and imaginative leadership of a management team in which the emphasis is on individual accountability for the efficient use of resources. The General Manager is responsible for

putting into effect the Authority's decisions and policies, and improving management performance in meeting objectives. Candidates should be able to demonstrate considerable success at senior level in a major enterprise, and be capable of commanding the support and respect of Authority Chairmen, Members, clinicians and other professionals within the NHS. The salary for the post is £37,000, although a performance related pay scheme is in operation, providing a potential maximum of over £44,000. A higher salary may be available for an exceptional candidate.

Please write in strictest confidence, giving sufficient brief details to justify a preliminary interview, to the Chairman:
Bryan Askew,
The Old Brewery,
Bacaster,
LS24 9SB.



Yorkshire Regional Health Authority

Where do the experts go for an informed opinion?

When the consultancy practice of one of the leading accountancy firms in the U.K. expresses its intention to become a leader in telecommunications consultancy, the market should be a notice.

Telecommunications technology is developing at an unprecedented rate but its expansion is no faster than that of our client. They have achieved their growth through a commitment to excellence in terms of both range and quality of service to their ever-increasing client base which includes blue chip companies in the banking, oil and retail industries as well as public authorities.

They now wish to make key senior appointments - that of Managing Consultant with special responsibility for a sector-based telecommunications practice.

A Telecomms Professional

with management acumen and
ambition for a No.1 role.
to £35K + car

You may now be working in a consultancy environment, managing on telecommunications needs. Alternatively you could be a senior manager in the mainstream of telecommunications or data processing. As a telecommunications expert within the practice your expertise will impact both internally and externally. It calls for management and marketing skills gained at a senior level.

Although the emphasis is very much strategic, expertise and knowledge of voice communications and of data communications ideally within a DEC or IBM environment are required.

The rewards are substantial: a salary to £35K with a car and other benefits commensurate with the status of the position.

Please telephone in complete confidence or send a full c.v., quoting reference T0114/C, to Clive Perrin.

01-242 9356

occ technical personnel

Recruitment Consultants: 1st Floor, Caven House, 11, Parkway, London WC2B 4PA

BRIGHT? SMART? ENTHUSIASTIC?

Are you also aged between 21-35, articulate and hard working?

Then you could be just what we are looking for!

We are expanding the Field Sales Group of our busy Classified Advertisement Department, and are looking for energetic Sales people to compliment the existing team.

The rewards include a generous salary and bonus scheme, long holidays and superb benefits.

If you think you are what we are looking for, write with full c.v. to:

Shirley Margolis
Group Classified Advertisement Manager
Times Newspapers Limited,
1, Virginia Street,
London E1 9DD.

THE TIMES

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Systems Analyst U.S. Fixed Income Instruments

London based
attractive salary & banking benefits

Our client is a leading international investment bank trading U.S. fixed income and corporate instruments on the London market. Their tremendous success in this area now necessitates the appointment of a Systems Analyst who can provide comprehensive on-site support for this range of products.

This new Analyst will be leading a small team undertaking portfolio analysis and the building of a new database. Additionally there will be responsibility for establishing a systems training programme for APL.

It is a role concerned with both management and technical issues, consequently our client is looking for a number of skills. At least 5 years' experience of fixed income instruments and portfolio analysis should be supported by proven systems design skills in an MVS/XA environment, and a fluency in both APL and CICS. Technical ability however should be coupled with the kind of interpersonal skills that will enable you to deal effectively at all levels.

Bring us these and you can look forward to an attractive salary and a range of benefits that includes a mortgage subsidy, profit share bonus and non-contributory pension.

Send a detailed cv to Tina McKay, Ref 364, JM Management Services, Columbia House, 69 Aldwych, London WC2B 4DX.

MANAGEMENT
SERVICES

EXECUTIVE POSTS IN THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR

PEOPLE NEED PEOPLE LIKE YOU

At the DHSS, people are our business. At many of our offices we deal with hundreds of enquiries each day, so if you're looking for a job which involves working with the public, in a busy and informal environment with flexible working hours, look no further.

The area we administer from Wembley consists of the greater London area north of the Thames and the counties of Essex, Herts, Bucks, Oxfordshire, Beds, Cambs and East Anglia. Executive Officers are employed in offices throughout the area but current vacancies are mainly in our offices in London and its northern environs.

Joining as an Executive Officer, you will be looking into a management structure that can take you through to the most senior posts, and highest rewards, in Government. A structured training programme will identify and develop your talents to the full. Subsequent promotion is based entirely on merit, and there is no limit to your career prospects.

Aged under 50, you must have at least 2 'W' level passes or equivalent. Applications from the disabled are also welcomed.

Competitive salaries are supported by a range of benefits including 22 days' annual leave and flexible working hours. For further details and an application form, please fill in the coupon and return it to Tony Duffin, or contact him at the Department of Health and Social Security, Olympic House, Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0DL. Tel: 01-902 8822. Please quote ref: E638/130.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer



NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

E638/130

ASSISTANT COMPANY SECRETARY

GUILDFORD
£14,000

required for a successful and expanding quoted group of industrial companies with a turnover in the region of £100 million.

This new appointment, reporting to the Company Secretary, requires a recently qualified chartered secretary, or finalist, in early 20s with two or three years' service in a medium sized quoted company, with experience in matters mentioned below.

Initial duties are likely to include statutory work for parent and subsidiary companies, analysis of

shareholdings, share options, insurance, preparation of background papers on current topics, support work for takeovers and demergers and computerisation of records.

Candidates should apply, enclosing a full CV to:

The Secretary,
Evered Holdings plc,
York House,
38/42 Chertsey Street,
Guildford,
Surrey GU1 4HD.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

The College is a membership organisation concerned with standards of care, training, education and examinations in the medical speciality of obstetrics and gynaecology.

ASSISTANT COLLEGE SECRETARY

Scale £17,607 - £20,965

The above post is head of the administration department and the responsibilities include office management, purchasing, printing, production of annual report and register of members, management of the College computer systems and organisation of admission ceremonies for new members. A knowledge of modern office technology, an ability to work with computers and good communications skills will be required. Excellent working conditions. Age preferably 30 to 40.

For details and an application form please contact:

Mrs Anita Simmonds,
RCOG, 27 Sussex Place,
Regent's Park, London, NW1 4RG.
Telephone 01-262 5425 ext 223.

Merchant Banking Group

Trustee Department

A vacancy has arisen for an experienced

Trust Administrator

within our active and expanding Trustee and Personal Financial Planning Department.

The work will involve the administration of a wide range of substantial and often complex trusts and estates and will provide an opportunity to broaden existing knowledge and experience in this sphere.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons (legal AIB Trustee) aged 25-30, who are seeking a responsible and rewarding position. Applications will also be considered from candidates who anticipate gaining these qualifications in the near future.

In addition to a competitive salary other benefits include mortgage assistance, BUPA, season ticket loan, non-contributory pension scheme, and free life insurance.

Please apply in writing, with full curriculum vitae to:

Gareth Hughes, Assistant Manager - Personnel,
Kleinwort Benson Group, PO Box 191, 10 Fenchurch Street,
London, EC3M 3LB.

Kleinwort Benson Group

TEMPORARY jobs available in Payless Bookshop to promote with a few minutes to spare. Interviewing work, with a chance to hear your books and records at a generous discount. Apply in writing to Payless, 119 Chiswick Road, W4C.

KEYBOARD OPERATOR
English/Arabic speaking, with min 2 yrs exp in Electronic Typing. Ideal home based job. 2 A-levels or equivalent, firm class rate offered. Write with CV to BOX 109.

A RECRUITMENT TRAINEE c £7,000

Through a combination of enthusiasm, determination, and the application of the highest professional standards our consultancy has grown to a three branch operation in under 3 years. To develop and open other offices we seek a committed young person, probably a graduate, to train in important work of recruiting account staff. Good managerial prospects.

Accountancy Recruiting
303-306 High Holborn, London WC1.
Tel 01-631 2529

EXPERIENCED SHIRT FACTORY MANAGER

For ultra-modern factory in Northern Ireland. Salary and conditions negotiable. Reply to BOX 635 c/o The Times.

SALES & MARKETING

**ULTRA
NET**

SALES EXECUTIVES COMMUNICATIONS SOLUTIONS OTE £50,000 p.a. + Exec. Car + Benefits

The Company

Ultrane is a fast growing company in the wide area network and peripherals market place. The company's rapid growth has come from an ability to solve customer problems with a completely unique range of communication products. These products are all designed, developed and manufactured in the United Kingdom. Ultrane's products have a proven track record, and are currently in use in private, public sector and government organisations. International interest in also fast developing for the company's products.

The company is now faced with a period of unprecedented opportunity and needs to strengthen its sales force in order to maintain sales from its prospect list.

The company currently has vacancies in the North, the Midlands and the South East.

Ultrane provides the successful applicants with pre-sales support, developed sales territories and tremendous sales leads.

The Person

Successful applicants are likely to have sales experience in the communications, computing or capital equipment markets. They will have a track record of success, and have demonstrated an ability to sell at board level. Consequently, successful applicants are unlikely to be under 30.

Our Sales Executives will have the ability to analyse complex business problems and devise creative solutions. It is therefore likely that our Sales Executives will have been educated to degree level, although in some instances first class business experience may provide a suitable substitute.

Above all else successful applicants will have the drive to take the challenges offered, and turn them into results.

In short, Ultrane is able to offer significant rewards to the right people, both financial and in career terms.

The Package

Successful applicants can expect a package commensurate with their abilities. In detail this means on target earnings of £50,000 p.a. (with no upper limit), an executive car, pension and other benefits that one could expect from a fast growing company which recognises people as its number one asset.

Please write for an information pack, enclosing career details to: The Company Secretary, Ultrane Limited, 21 Canon Street, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1SW

**ULTRA
NET**

Due to the growth and success of business, our existing small team requires a professional

SALES EXECUTIVE

A subsidiary of a Scandinavian conglomerate, we seek an excellent person who is keen to develop a sound career in sales. The successful candidate, ideally aged between 22-30, will be highly motivated to sell a wide range of houseware products to existing/potential customers within the UK retail market. A Midlands location would be most beneficial.

SALARY £10k-£15k OTE (commensurate with age/experience).

- + Car
- + BUPA
- + Private Pension Scheme

Apply with CV in confidence to:

Ms J. Roberts,
Hackman (UK) Ltd,
Sheffield Park Sawmills,
UCKFIELD TN22 3PR

HACKMAN

THE DAVIS COMPANY LIMITED
Executive Recruitment & Selection

Managing Consultant

Marketing
to £35,000 + Car

An international management consultancy firm is seeking to expand its marketing consultancy services and strengthen its marketing team at the level of Principal Consultant. The successful candidate will help to build up the marketing team and lead engagements in marketing strategy, planning, and organisation. There are good opportunities for promotion to Director.

Aged 35/40, you will be a graduate and may well have an MBA or a post graduate marketing qualification. Possessing strong intellectual and presentational skills you will have the ability and desire to get to the top. Work experience would include a progressive track record in marketing/sales in large, well managed F.M.C.G. or industrial companies. A demonstrable expertise in consultancy is an essential prerequisite.

Interested candidates should call David Roberts on 01-437 3344 quoting Ref: D 5276, or write to him at the address below.

13/14 Dean Street, London W1V 5AH.

INTERNATIONAL SALES EXECUTIVES

PARALLEL MEDIA GROUP is a rapidly expanding leader in worldwide event marketing, specialising in matching global sponsors to major sports events and associated television programming.

We urgently require a talented sales person to join our international team.

Applicants should be fluent in English, French and preferably German. Media or marketing backgrounds are preferred, but not as essential as a proven ability to sell, learn quickly and communicate at all levels.

Based in London, you must be able to travel extensively.

Basic salary c. £20,000, plus excellent commission structure.

Apply in writing asap to Mark Wood, Head of Sales
Parallel Media BOX NO K98

PARALLEL
MEDIA GROUP

LONDON PARIS NEW YORK TOKYO AUCKLAND SYDNEY

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

ARE YOU AT THE CROSSROADS OF YOUR CAREER?

Very often, executives and other professional people contemplate a change right in the middle of their career.

Most often their reasons for this are a general dissatisfaction with their present career and the belief that they could and should be doing better.

Chusid Lander is a group of specialist career consultants who for many years have been helping people earning £15,000 a year, or more, to get better jobs - whether they are currently in a job, unemployed or facing redundancy.

We have turned pessimism into optimism, failure into success and

jaded Executives into highly successful people earning very much more - and we can prove it. For many years, we have been guiding people in the right direction - now it's your turn!

To arrange an early confidential appointment without obligation, telephone your nearest office, (24 hour answerphone in London.) or send us your C.V.

LONDON 01-580 6771 MANCHESTER 061-228 0089
BIRMINGHAM 021-643 8502 NOTTINGHAM 0549 37921
BRISTOL 0272 22367 GLASGOW 043-332 1502
BELFAST 0232 621824

CHUSID LANDER
35/37 Fitzroy Street, London W1P 5AF

LEADING LONDON NIGHTCLUB

Requires 2 Discjockeys
4 nights each per week.
Reply to BOX L12.

EXPERIENCED VIDEO PRODUCER

Required to run the Greenwich subsidiary of a leading national Communications Company. Applicants should have a considerable working knowledge of the industrial video industry with particular strength in marketing, selling and business management. Position immediately available at a salary circa £22,000 p.a. Please reply to Reply to BOX G40.

EX-ARMY OFFICER

Required immediately by long-established Mayfair Estate Agent for a post as Residential Negotiator. Age bracket 25-35. Good knowledge of London essential. All replies will be treated in strict confidence and should include a full C.V. and photograph. REPLY TO: BOX L10.

Judy Farquharson Limited
47 New Bond Street, London, W1Y 5HA.
01-492 8224

PRIVATE HEALTH CARE PLC 15/18K + CAR OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE

The young director of an expanding company, building sheltered homes and private health clinic, needs an energetic assistant. He/she would become fully involved in the day to day monitoring, marketing, and personnel management of the homes which are countrywide. The preferred age would be 25-30, graduate calibre, a warm personality and a good track record in a commercial environment.

JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

JULY, GROUP LEADERS/ DRIVERS WANTED

4th to 30th July 1987
age MINIMUM 24
Requirements: clean driving licence, cheerful, reliable.
To work with groups of foreign children on activity programmes of study course, based at High Wycombe. Bucks
Selection interviews 6th to 8th April
For further information contact:
Auntie Bransford, 15 Albany Rd, Maidenhead.
Tel: 0625 31674.

Personal Financial Planning

A leading UK institution with a unique investment idea wish to appoint 3 people between 30 and 45 for its marketing operations. Possible earnings in excess of £30,000 (commission) per annum.
Telephone Ian Kirkwood
Sun Life Unit Services
01-242 2222

TRAINEE BROKERS

Top London Brokerage requires two Trainee Brokers 22-30. Positive, confident manner, with integrity and professionalism essential. No previous experience necessary as full training given.
CALL ANDREW MOON ON: 01-409 3013

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Sales & Marketing Manager

East Anglia
£18,000 Neg.
+ Car

An established and respected major house builder whose name is synonymous with quality and value operates nationally through autonomous regional companies.

Continuing growth now requires the appointment of an energetic and professional Sales/Marketing Manager to take responsibility for the sale of a range of quality homes throughout the expanding Anglian Region. Reporting directly to the Managing Director, duties will cover co-ordinating and processing all sales activity and leading the marketing, advertising and P.R. effort of the Company.

Probably 30+, previous relevant management experience within the housing sector is essential. Conditions of service and career opportunities are excellent.

Please telephone or write to Mann Management, Recruitment and Management Consultants, 160 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0HR. Telephone 01-629 4226. Quoting Ref: H/902.

**MANN
MANAGEMENT**

You seek an environment where professional completion of a turnkey project is the norm. Your sales figures are sooner achieved where there is technical expertise and support on tap for major bids.

SPRING CLEAN

You will be an experienced solution seller, preferably with DEC VAX exposure, desirably with success in the distribution and/or manufacturing and/or reinsurance market place. The rewards for on target earnings include:

c.£30,000
Off basic of c.£20,000, on Wheels of BMW.

Contact Bill Cunningham
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Recruitment Consultants
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Telephone: Walton (0932) 221212.



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A world leader in advanced voice and data networking and probably the most profitable Datacomms Company in the U.K. last year, our client seeks to maintain its impressive growth record through the recruitment of 4 Sales Account Managers Nationwide.

Consistent heavy investment in R & D has resulted in the forthcoming launch of a startling new product developed to further strengthen an already impressive and comprehensive portfolio.

Successful candidates will be consistent high achievers with a minimum of one year selling into Datacomms or associated markets. Most importantly you will be tenacious and enthusiastic with the energy and flair to succeed in a high calibre, team environment.

Individual earnings well in excess of £70K were achieved last year so the rewards are high for Sales Professionals aiming to develop their successful careers into account management within a truly people orientated company.

To find out more call Peter Jenner on 0378-77377 or write enclosing your C.V.

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2 Barnston Road,
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Fax: (0323) 74500

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We seek experienced negotiators and trainees to join our established teams in five offices across West London.

The people we have in mind will be self-motivated towards company and personal success, lively and confident.

As an independent, expanding company we can promise a positive career opportunity with excellent promotion prospects.

Good salary, commission, car allowance, bonus, incentives.

Please telephone or apply in writing to: Michael Collins BSc, FRICS

ACCOUNT DIRECTOR

We are looking for an Account Director probably aged between 25 and 40 who has the experience and ability to handle major accounts.

Our business is to produce and stage 'COMMUNICATION' programmes utilizing the media of conferences, multi-media events, interactive video disc and video tape. Sales and Marketing experience is essential.

We are a creative, successful and substantial organization with new 40,000 sq. ft. premises in Marlow just 40 minutes from London.

A very exciting remuneration package will be offered including Car, PPP, Life Assurance and Pension.

Apply in writing to the Managing Director, Maritz Communications, Globe Park, Marlow SL7 1YW.



MARITZ COMMUNICATIONS

Tele-Sales And Plenty More ...

If you are extremely well presented and spoken, dedicated to achieving your goals, organised and intelligent, we would like to hear from you.

The job is demanding, hectic, sometimes frustrating but always stimulating.

We are a long established and professional firm of Recruitment Consultants currently seeking additional members for our city based teams.

Successful applicants will be self-motivated and enthusiastic with a proven track record in sales.

Excellent earnings potential within a high growth market.

To arrange an interview ring

Helen Riddell on 01-638 3846

or

Julia Macmillan on 01-626 8315

Challoners

EVERALD COMPTON INTERNATIONAL LTD CONSULTANTS

This leading International Fund Raising Company with offices in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Africa, needs first class Consultants to manage campaigns on behalf of an increasing number of clients.

Applicants should have a successful business background with skills in Marketing and Management as well as a history of Community Service. Training in fund raising principles and organisation will be given by the Company.

Consultants should be:

- in the age-range 40-55
- willing to travel anywhere in the world.
- self-reliant and self-motivated - able to work with eminent influential citizens in any society.

If you are looking for new challenges, identifiable achievements, self satisfaction and tangible rewards please write to:

B.H. LePine-Williams, Director & Manager,
Everald Compton International Ltd., Springfield,
ANDREAS I.O.M.

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

ACMA ACA ACCA From strategy... Make an impact through consultancy

You've always enjoyed a challenge. And with your outstanding technical, business and personal skills, you've risen rapidly through financial or management accounting to a level of responsibility beyond your years.

Yet you still want a bigger challenge, one that will involve you in strategic thinking as well as practical action.

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Working with a talented team, every inch your equal, you'll find both the stimulating career environment and the high visibility

within our client organisations a test for intellect, personal skills and commercial acumen.

What's more, for ambitious accountants with at least three years' post-qualification experience in an operational environment, we can match your highest expectations in terms of both rewards and prospects. Starting salaries in a range up to £35,000 with benefits which include a car. And for the brightest individuals, partnership in your thirties.

You know you need a fresh challenge. Act now, by sending full personal and career details (including daytime telephone number) to Geoffrey Thiel, quoting reference 3058/T on both envelope and letter.

...to action

Deloitte Haskins + Sells

Management Consultancy Division
P.O. Box 198, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7PL

SALES & MARKETING

OFFICE EQUIPMENT SALESPERSON

With my clients you will have the opportunity of selling a whole range of products (Copiers, WP, Office Furniture, Typewriters) and in fact your main aim will be to earn as much money as is possible.

For the very best deal will TOP SALESPERSONS from either disciplines, please telephone:
Alan Scudder on (0992) 37105 up to 9.30p.m. Monday - Friday.

COMPUTER SALES PROFESSIONALS LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES

A number of exciting opportunities have arisen for experienced computer sales people covering all aspects of the computer sales industry.

Ideally you will be 24 plus with a proven track record, attractive basic salary for the successful. High OTE £37k plus is realistic + car + expenses + the usual benefits associated with a prestigious organisation.

Only the truly ambitious and successful need apply.

To:
B.C.I. Ltd,
01-735 8171
01-582 8678
01-582 7080

Or send C.V.s to Peter Lange R.D.I. (Rev) Ltd, Southbank House, Black Prince Rd., London SE1 7SL.

'SLOANE RANGERS' SALES P.R. CAREER - 21 PLUS

Australian marketing company now in U.K. dealing with car industry need 'Sloane Rangers' to complete team to sales directly to the public. Successful applicants will be well groomed, able to listen at all levels, with a strong desire to succeed & earn top money. Full training given. Confidential interview - contact Brigitte Hutchinson, A.M.S. U.K. Ltd, 1A Knoll Rise, ORPINGTON, KENT BR8 0LR. Tel. (0688) 3288

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YOU MAY USE YOUR ACCESS, AMEX, DINERS OR VISA CARD

Sales Engineer

required to promote the sale of equipment and repair facilities of the electrical and mechanical engineering companies of this Kent based group. (0511/4).

Technical Sales Representatives required by the welding and allied equipment manufacturers of the Kent based group. (0511/4).

Applications from experienced sales engineers to the Personnel Director, Dry Co and Electrical Engineering Ltd, Lower Road, Chislehurst, Kent DA1 4QN. 0222 52811.

LEASING

INSTALMENT CREDIT

FACTORING

300+ VACANCIES
PHONE 0273 738293
A.R.L. (FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT)

ARE YOU BEING PAID WHAT YOU ARE WORTH?

Excellent opportunity for two people (22+) to join a major group in the financial services industry (West End location).

Full training, rapid progression into management, equity participation and £15,000+ per annum.

Call Mr Spillies on 01 439 8431.

SPACE SALES AGENTS

sought in Midlands SW & NW & NE England for quality local selling of prime space. Established in most of U.K. Own transport essential. Some sales experience desirable. High commission earning.

Tel: (0635) 38888

SALES EXECUTIVE - Boreham £14K OTE £20K + Car. This well known corporation is looking to strengthen its software division by recruiting a top line sales executive with a good understanding of computers. With a little sales experience already, the successful candidate will be offered a competitive salary and a car. Call David on 01-262 0100. RMC Corp.

GRADUATES

We have opportunities for graduates in their twenties who have done their travelling, had their first jobs and are now serious about committing themselves to a career.

Our client is a marketing company, and is looking for people to train in management and sales, as well as in marketing. The company is expanding rapidly and wants to train people from the "bottom up" so that it can maintain its keen internal promotions policy. You must be team-orientated, willing to work hard and prepared to commit yourself to a rigorous training schedule.

It will demand your best.

If you are interested please call
Patrick Williams
01-624 5958 or
01-625 5626

PROGRAMMES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY

ARE YOU A SUCCESSFUL SALESPERSON?

F.P.S. (Management) Ltd has 40 branches nationwide. By the end of 1987 we plan to have 80.

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BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

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The successful candidates are likely to be newly or recently qualified ACA's who have experience of financial services through their training with one of the major professional firms.

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Manager Financial Services Audit,
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,
99 Bishopsgate,
London EC2P 2LA.
Tel: 01-638 2366.

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Vocational Training Council

HONG KONG

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Centre Manager

Vocational Training Council
The Vocational Training Council (VTC), a statutory body responsible for Government assisted manpower training in Hong Kong, will establish a Banking Training Centre of Hong Kong by the end of 1987. The main functions of the Centre include the development and implementation of work-based courses with narrowly defined objectives to cater for the short-term practical training needs of various categories of banking personnel. The Centre will have a Centre Manager, professional, administrative and supporting staff. Applications are now invited for the post of Centre Manager for the administration and operation of the Centre.

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The post will attract a monthly salary of HK\$24,785-HK\$28,135 (\$1 = HK\$1.75 as at 27.1.87 but this is subject to fluctuation) depending on qualifications and experience. The appointee will be offered an initial contract of four years, inclusive of leave, plus 25% terminal gratuity upon satisfactory completion of the agreement. Thereafter, the appointee may be offered either contract or supernumerary term at the discretion of the Vocational Training Council. Fringe benefits include leave and passages, housing, medical and dental treatments, children's education allowances and school passages.

Application
Application forms are obtainable personally or by post from the Hong Kong Government Office, 6 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LB. The completed application form should then be returned direct to the Executive Director, Vocational Training Council, 15/F, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong to reach him on or before 31 March 1987.



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HORIZONS

A guide to career development

Fight-back for over-40s

Hope need not fade
for the jobless over-40s;
experience and skills
linked to free time are
assets which can be
exploited as perhaps
never before, perhaps in
imaginative businesses,
says Kathleen Frenchman

Unemployment at any age is a deadening experience. For people over 40 it very often feels like the end of the road. If several attempts to find work fail, rejection and dejection can take over. Many people are just too dispirited to seek out the opportunities that exist.

Now the over-forties are being challenged to be positive and to make best use of their time and talents, even if they haven't a job. Experience, skills and free time are all assets.

Some men and women have had the determination to find new outlets for their energy and aptitudes. One is Fred Sage. Now in his late fifties, Fred has become a qualified tourist guide, and has even been able to open a door for other unemployed older people.

Nobody wanted to employ a man over 50 permanently. Some temporary work came along from time to time but that was all. Finding this very unsatisfactory, Fred applied for, and got, a place on a training course for City of London guides. For most of his working life he had been a stevedore, so a return to the classroom at 50 plus was pretty heavy going for him. Nevertheless, he passed the exam with distinction.

He then felt that Greenwich, his own area, so rich in history and interest, could do with some guides. He pursued the idea relentlessly until the Inner London Education Authority agreed to set up a one-day-a-week course in guiding with Fred as tutor. Course members must have lived in the area a long time and be unemployed. If they complete the course successfully they get an official badge and work from Greenwich Pier.

Fred now attends teacher training college one day a week, too, and spends quite a lot of time researching. He does not earn a great deal but he has succeeded in getting his scheme off the ground.

Another success story is Meg Mansfield's. After many years of caring for home and family, her world fell apart when her husband left. She had no money, no job, no useful work experience, and no self confidence. Four years on she has acquired new skills and is happily passing them on to youngsters on a job creation project.

Meg's first step in "pulling herself together" was to get down to the refurbishment of her recently-bought old house. To her surprise she found she enjoyed using tools. Next she applied to



Guided tour of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. Retraining as a guide is one option for the older unemployed

join a co-operative which draughtproofed people's homes. The work was hard and dirty but the great bonus for Meg was the kindness and support of the people she worked with.

After a period in a job she was ready to tackle something new and took a course in upholstery and furniture crafts at the London College of Furniture. She is now a supervisor on a scheme where young workers recondition cast-off furniture and sell it cheaply to people on low incomes.

London Weekend TV presents a challenge

The challenge to the older unemployed to exploit their skills and experience comes from London Weekend Television through its Community Unit and with it comes an offer of help. Short television announcements are being broadcast, over three weekends, ending March 29. Their message is "yes, there is life after redundancy", and each announcement features someone who has found a new occupation. The help is contained in a substantial free handbook, which viewers are invited to send for.

A range of possibilities is explored, including setting up a co-operative and starting your own business, with advice on how to go about it, and information about where financial and other help is available. There are sections on special resources for women and for people with disabilities. Elsewhere, the handbook looks at some government-sponsored schemes; among them the Community Programme which is not, as many people think, confined to the younger generation.

Other suggestions are to take advantage of educational programmes and training courses on offer, or to investigate the wide range of work that can be undertaken by volunteers. Pursuing special interests can sometimes lead to new careers, or perhaps part-time

employment. The stories of nine people who already have succeeded are told briefly.

The effort to reach the jobless over-40s is getting top priority at LWT and a better slice of output and resources than other subjects selected to benefit from free air time. Unusually, announcements are going out all three days of three consecutive weekends.

The Community Unit's editor, Malcolm Southan, says: "Unemployment hits these older people hardest of all and so far they have been ignored. All the pressure groups are concentrating on the young or other sections of the unemployed. It is good that we can lay on some help for a group that has been neglected."

The information, ideas, and pointers in the *Unemployed and over forty?* handbook are exactly the kind of guidelines, or maybe lifelines, needed by people who have to make a fresh start. Anyone who has self-doubts will be encouraged by the experiences of the nine people featured; not least by the woman of 50, who fought her way on to a course in hotel management despite the tutor's great reluctance to take her.

Extensive research has gone into the handbook. It is not only packed with local addresses of agencies which give advice, help, information, or grants, but in many cases the names of the right individuals to approach and their hours of availability are given too. The Manpower Services Commission has welcomed LWT's initiative in addressing the problems of older unemployed people and has made a contribution to the cost of printing.

"Of course, not everyone over 40 who is unemployed is going to find a lucrative new job," warns an LWT researcher, "but most people should find something interesting or constructive, or companionable to do."

● The handbook *Unemployed and over forty? from Out of Work and Over Forty*, Box 33, London SE1 9LT. Information about Greater London and the Home Counties plus Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Hampshire, Sussex, and Bedfordshire.

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